The world's best-selling PC leisure magazine

PC FORMAT

FREE BOOK! 200 essential Windows and DOS tips

UNE 1994 ■ ISSUE 33 ■ £3.95

HD EDITION

SILVER DREAM MACHINE

Why CDs are the future of PC entertainment

20 top CD-ROM titles you won't want to miss

Eight CD-ROM drives reviewed and rated

IGHT FOR SORE EYES

PC monitors on test

O THE WRITE THING

hich word processor is right for your wallet?



Then ask your newsagent for it now.

Also inside!

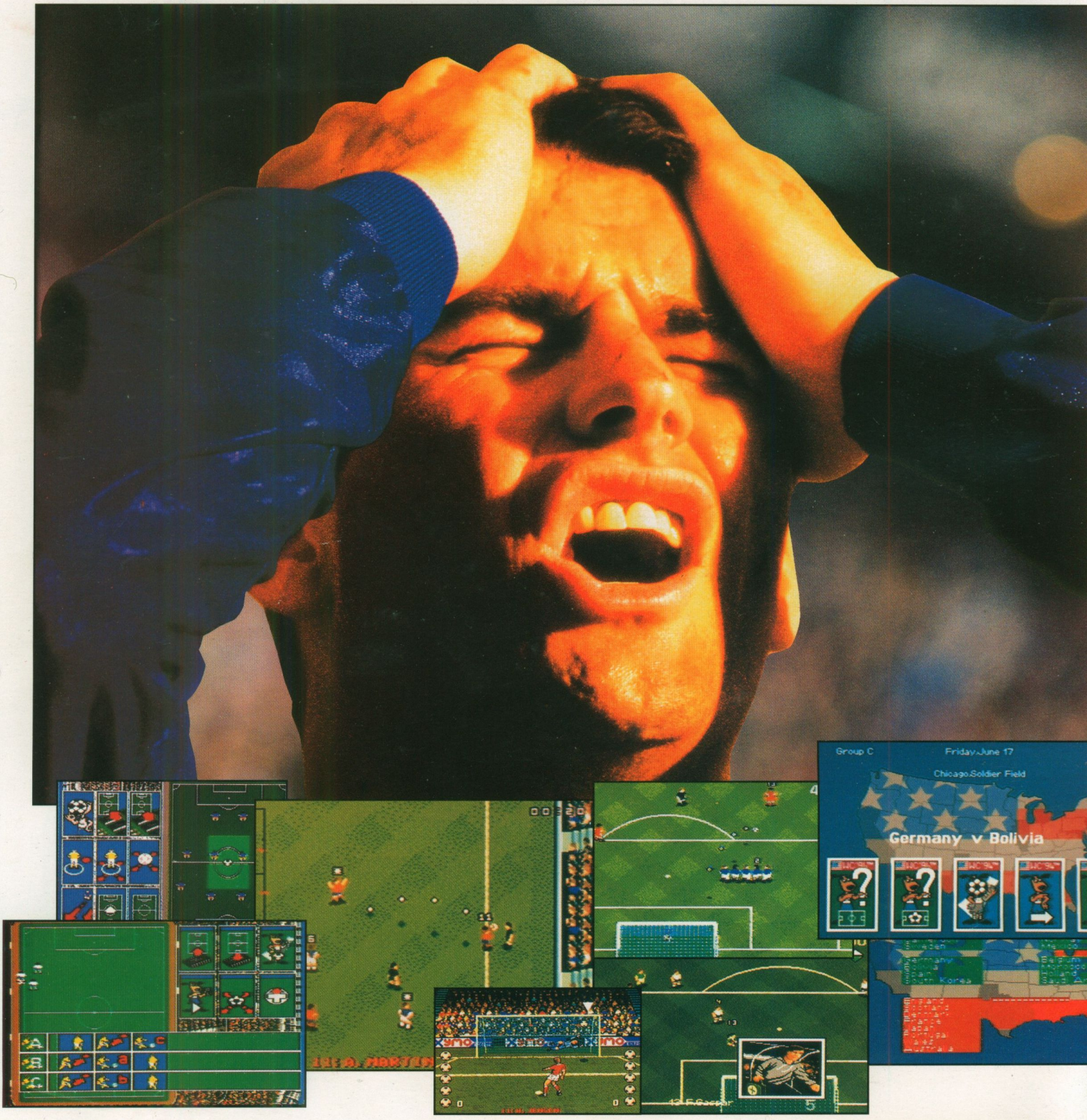
- New series starts this issue – Peter Lee's Graphics Workshop
- How to become a game designer
- Discover what you'll be playing for the rest of the year – ECTS report

9 770963 552014 06

Future PUBLISHING

Your guarantee of value

SO REAL



©1991 WC-'94 / ISL. ©1992 WC '94 / ISL. ©1994 U.S. Gold LTD. All rights reserved. Official Licensee U.S. Gold Ltd., Units 2/3 Holford Way, Holford, Birmingham B6 7AX. Tel: 021 625 3366. U.S. Gold is a registered trademark of U.S. Gold Ltd. 'SEGA' 'MEGA DRIVE' 'MEGA-CD' 'MASTER SYSTEM' and 'GAME GEAR' are trademarks of SEGA Enterprises Ltd., ©1994 SEGA Enterprises Ltd. Nintendo® Super Nintendo Entertainment System™, GAME BOY™, and the Nintendo Product Seals are trademarks of Nintendo.

Screen shots are from various formats and are illustrative of gameplay and not the screen graphics which may vary considerably between formats.

U.S. GOLD

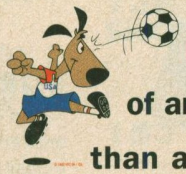
IT HURTS



nothing matches the anguish...

...of a missed penalty in a SHOOT OUT that could take you to the World Cup final. That's the reality of World Cup USA '94 from U.S. Gold.

Serious game play and the only one serious enough to carry the official license.

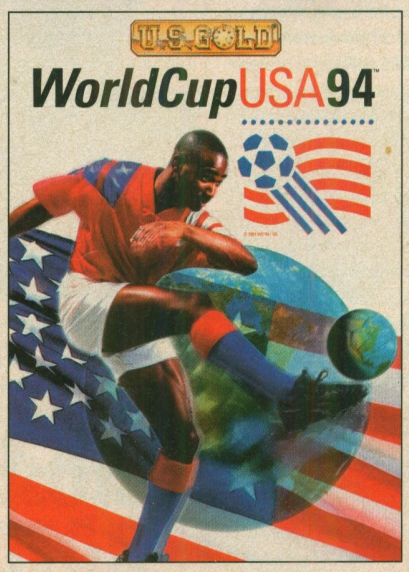


You get *more* options, *more* CUSTOMISATION, *more* frames of animation and *more* playability than any game ever, plus a few unique SURPRISES guaranteed to keep your opponents guessing.

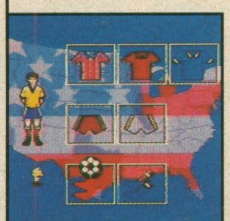
What we're talking about is a football game that gives you the ***feel, guts, smart thinking and downright inspired moves*** of real World Class Football.

So if you want to play real football, put your brain in gear and get U.S. Gold's World Cup USA '94.

- MEGA-CD
- MEGA DRIVE
- MASTER SYSTEM
- GAME GEAR
- SUPER NINTENDO
- GAME BOY
- AMIGA
- IBM PC
- CD-ROM









...this is a game for players.

It's out on *June 3rd* and it's the *only one worth waiting for*

WorldCupUSA94™

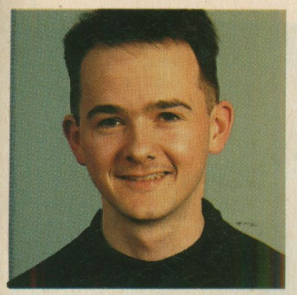


© 1991 WC'94 / ISL

PC FORMAT

CONTENTS

ISSUE 33 JUNE 1994



NEW READERS START HERE

With the sudden explosion of interest in CD-ROMs, and the advent of the special CD-ROM bearing edition of *PC FORMAT*, I thought it was time I said a special "Hello" to the many new readers who've started buying the magazine over the last couple of months. And if our audits are anything to go by, there are an awful lot of you!

Hopefully, you've been impressed with what you've read so far, and will be equally intoxicated with this month's salubrious offerings. We've pulled out all the stops to bring you an issue brimming with features, news, reviews and previews of upcoming programs and hardware. If a program's not covered in *PC FORMAT*, then it's not worth knowing about. Unless, of course, it's something excruciatingly boring such as a spreadsheet program or database – and if you've really got a craving for pie charts and cross-field tabulations, then you're probably reading the wrong magazine.

PC FORMAT aims to represent and celebrate the arcane pleasure that can be wrung from exploiting your PC to its absolute limit – squeezing every last ounce of power out of your machine. Whatever your leisure computing interests and needs, *PCF* attempts to satisfy them. No other magazine offers such a comprehensive guide to the home PC user, nor with such wit and panache (except these achingly boring editorials I'm forced to write each month).

What's more, we're completely independent – the mark we award to a product is an honest and, we hope, accurate assessment of its worth. Unlike other magazines, we won't review something until it's 100 per cent complete – and we certainly don't hurry our reviews. Sure, sometimes you have to wait a little longer to read a game review in *PC FORMAT* than in some other magazines, but we think the wait is worthwhile. Honesty, after all, is the best policy. Enjoy the issue,

Dan Slingsby, Editor.

Features

PAGE 39
The future of CD and full-motion video

PAGE 43
Eight CD-ROM drives reviewed and rated

PAGE 48
The 20 hottest CD titles



36 SILVER DREAM MACHINE

The future of the PC is bright. In fact, it's bright, silvery and CD-shaped, and unless you've got a CD-ROM drive you could miss out on the the next leap forward in computer entertainment. If our 11-page feature doesn't persuade you that CD is the place to be, then nothing will. We reveal what major developers such as Microsoft, VIE, Electronic Arts and The Software Toolworks have in store, and you might be surprised to learn that their plans don't include the humble 3.5-inch disk. The software that's in development looks incredible, but what's already out there is pretty special too – we've rounded up 20 of the best CD titles. And now you've decided that the time is right to buy a CD-ROM drive, you need to know which one to go for, which is why Ed Ricketts has put eight of the beasts through their paces in our biggest CD-ROM drive round-up ever.

108 DO THE WRITE THING

You don't need to spend a fortune on a word processor, although you get some fairly incredible packages if you do. We review a selection of word processors, costing from £50 to £500.



Get a free sunflower when you buy a new PC word processor.

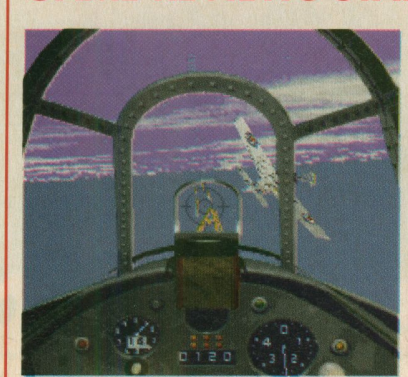
120 SIGHT FOR SORE EYES

Put an end to terrible eye-strain trauma once and for all, without wasting your money on eye baths, Optrex, tinted spectacles and slices of cucumber – splash out on a decent monitor. Paul Pettengale delivers six of the best, just like he used to get when he was at school.

144 THE NEXT GENERATION

The console giants have finally woken up to the fact that the PC is the hottest games machine around, and they're pulling out all the stops to protect their share of the lucrative leisure market. We assess the chances of the PC's new rivals, and take a look at new games machines from Sega, Nintendo, Atari, 3DO, Sony and Commodore.

GAME REVIEWS START ON PAGE 54

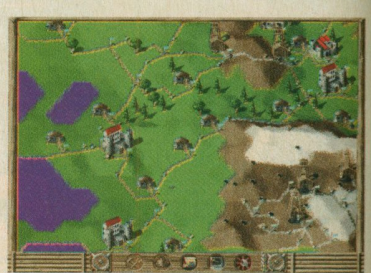


Can *Pacific Strike* match the excitement of its commanding predecessor?

After saving the free world from the advancing Japanese in *Pacific Strike*, why not try your hand at *Myst*, the most surreal adventure game ever to appear on the PC. When you've played *The Settlers* Coverdisk demo, you can see how the full game shapes up too.

Previews:
Chaos Engine **54**
FIFA International Soccer **57**

Reviews:
Battles of Time **85**
Dark Seed (CD) **84**
Diggers **79**
Evasive Action **81**
F1 ..... **90**
Myst (CD) **64**
Pacific Strike **60**
Ravenloft **85**



They're cute, they're clever, they're not very furry, they're the Settlers.

Regulars

16 NEWS
Yet more scintillating 'facts' hot off the grapevine, our report from the ECTS and what must be the biggest compo ever, with prizes worth over £5,000.

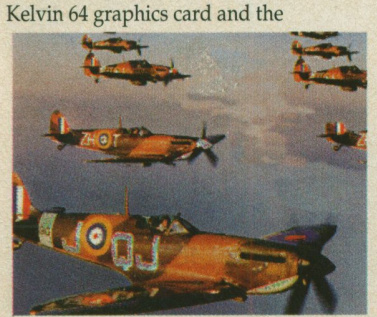
26 TOMORROW'S WORLD
Chicago – home of the world's first skyscraper, or Microsoft's answer to your technical PC problems? Ed Ricketts helps you decide, in our regular date with the future of personal computing.

30 *PCF* INTERVIEW
Fancy becoming a programmer? Or a graphic artist? Then get yourself off to Middlesex University. Ed Ricketts speaks to the man who makes it happen.

66 SUBSCRIBE TO *PC FORMAT*
Save money and time when you subscribe to *PCF*. Collect a free game too.

101 SOFTWARE SOLUTIONS
After watching *A Hard Day's Night* you can *Do It On Your Desktop* and go *Supersonic* to the sound of *Lenny's MusicToons*. Get through that lot and you might become *Time Man of the Year*.

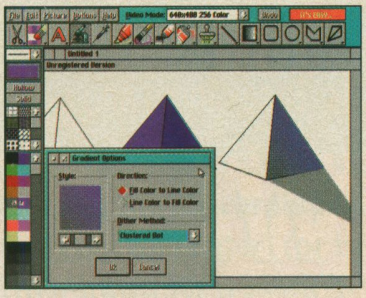
113 HARDWARE SOLUTIONS
Reviewed this month: a Pentium PC, the Kelvin 64 graphics card and the ReelMagic CD-ROM upgrade kit. Oh, and a book.



Your chance to go *Supersonic* in this month's Software Solutions.

127 RESOLUTIONS
Another pile of old tat passed off as technical expertise. Only kidding – this is the best advice Ed could come up with.

133 GRAPHICS WORKSHOP
Animation expert Peter Lee introduces his four-part tutorial, which will turn you into Tex Avery before you know it.



It's the start of our all-new, easy-to-follow graphics tutorial series.

139 SHAREWARE SHOWCASE
Paul Pettengale presents his preferences plucked from the public domain.

153 *PCF* MAIL
Your chance to get your name in print, and have a good ol' moan at Dan 'gives as good as he gets' Slingsby.

158 SPECIAL OFFERS
Get the best PC hardware and software at bargain prices.

160 COMPETITIONS
More than £2,000-worth of software and six top-quality MicroProse flying jackets must be won in our crazy compos.

162 NEXT MONTH
It'll all be the same, only bigger, better, bolder, brasher and with some different bits inside.

Red Hell **82**
Sam and Max Hit the Road (CD) . **74**
Star Trek: 25th Anniversary (CD) **84**
Starlord **71**
The Lawnmower Man (CD) **75**
The Settlers **68**
The Ultimate Trivia CD **85**
UFO Enemy Unknown **76**

Budget Reviews
Corridor 7 ..... **87**
First Samurai **88**
Grand Prix Unlimited **88**
Great Courts 2 ..... **88**
Links **88**
Wolfenstein 3D **87**

Game Tips **93**

CD-ROM REVIEWS

If you've already bought a CD-ROM drive, you might like to check out our CD-ROM reviews, scattered gaily throughout the magazine.

A Hard Day's Night 104
Dark Seed 84
Do It On Your Desktop 102
Lenny's MusicToons 102
Myst 64
Rock 'n' Roll Years The 50s 104
Sam and Max Hit the Road 74
Star Trek: 25th Anniversary 84
Supersonic 101
The Lawnmower Man 75
Time Man of the Year 101

Just turn the page

YOUR GUIDE TO THE COVERDISK

Two of the best games you'll see this side of the summer on *PC FORMAT's* awesome Coverdisk.

The Settlers

It's the cutest strategy game we've ever seen, and as soon as you start playing you'll be hooked.
Min. system: 4Mb; VGA; 386; mouse; hard disk (1.5Mb).



Pinball Dreams 2

Finger-flippin' fun from those crazy steel ballers at 21st Century Entertainment. You won't believe how addictive it is.
Min. system: 2Mb; VGA; 386; hard disk (1.5Mb).

Gaze

Make your life easier and get rid of those frustrating DOS command-line problems with this incredibly easy-to-use DOS-based menu program. You'll be glad you did.
Min. system: 640K; VGA; 286; mouse; hard disk (0.5Mb).



Tum, tum, tum, tum, tummmm. Sorry, wrong analgesic.



The latest flip-fest from 21st Century Entertainment.

CD-ROM EDITION

The second *PC FORMAT* CD-ROM is packed with almost 600Mb of the best in PC entertainment. Check it out...



Have you got the *PC FORMAT* CD-ROM edition? If you have you can get to grips with everything on the Disc by flicking through to page 34 of the mag where the special 16-page CD-ROM Supplement starts.

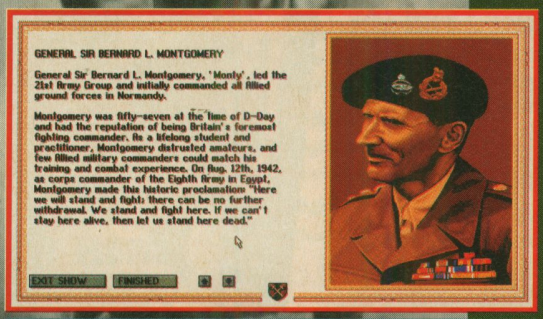
This month sees a CD-ROM games explosion, with no less than five CD-ROM game demos gracing our Disc. There's *MegaRace*, the graphically stunning racing game from Cryo; there's *Sim City CD*, with video footage and speech; there's *Buzz Aldrin's Race Into Space CD*, *Star Trek: 25th Anniversary CD* and a demo of *Bridge Champion*.

That's by no means all. The creative types among you should check out *Neopaint 2.2* and *Top Draw*, two of the best paint packages for DOS and Windows, then turn to page 133 for ideas on using them. Or create your own desktop publications with *Envision Publisher 2* and the free clip-art we've included.

There are over 20 programs on the CD-ROM, every one a winner. So flip to the CD-ROM Supplement on page 34 now.

D-DAY™

THE BEGINNING OF THE END



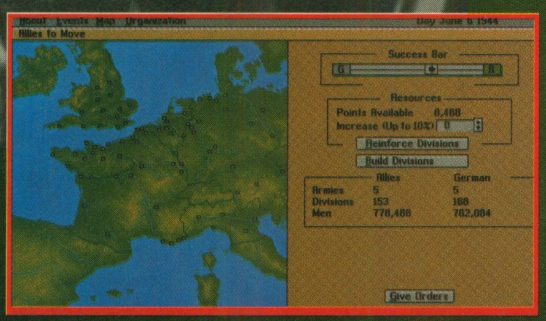
Historically Accurate Personalities



Turn-Based Campaign Level



Micro-Miniatures Battle on Detailed Terrain



Reinforce and Build your Divisions

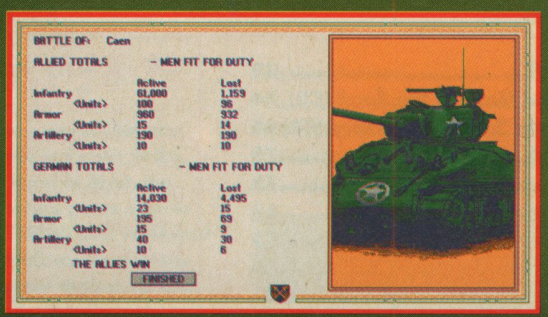
As Supreme Allied or Axis Commander, the fate of Europe hangs on your decision. The challenge to the Allies: Establish a beachhead and smash through to Berlin. To the Axis: Break them and preserve the Reich.

WARNING:
This is a wargame with a difference!

Play real-time animated battles within turn-based strategic campaigns from June 1944 through the end of the war.

D-Day: The Beginning of the End™ is the latest in *Impressions*' Micro-Miniatures series. It even surpasses **"The Blue & The Gray"** in strategic complexity, and packs in the historical detail you demand.

- **Historically accurate army organization**
- **Leadership capabilities & Personalities**
- **Enhanced A.I.** • **Naval/Air Bombardments**
- **Accurate Field Weapons**
- **Supply & Reinforcements**
- **Detailed rural and urban terrain**



Battle Results: Win or lose?

©1994 Impressions Software Inc IBM PC VGA Screenshots

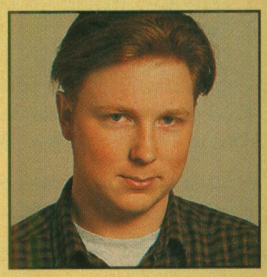
Impressions™ *Committed to Excellence in Strategy Entertainment*

Impressions Software, Unit 2/12, Chelsea Garden Market, Chelsea Harbour, Lots Road, London SW10 OXE

It's huge, it's amazing, it's PCF's

Coverdisk 33

Two brilliant game demos and one of the most user-friendly graphical interfaces ever grace this month's Coverdisk. James Binns welcomes you to issue 33's fabulous flippy floppy offering, and shows you exactly what you can achieve with a flat piece of black plastic and your PC.





Up and running in seconds

Running the Coverdisk is easy – slot it into your 3.5-inch disk drive and type: `a:` [Enter] (or `b:` if you're using the B: drive), followed by: `pcf` [Enter]. Use the cursor keys to highlight the program you want to install and hit [Enter].

THE SETTLERS

See page 8

One of the best rule-'em-ups ever produced for the PC, fresh from the gang at Blue Byte. Watch your little family while they build a town and set up the structures to keep it going. If this demo leaves you yearning for more, then check out our review of the full game on page 68.

Min. system: 4Mb; VGA; 386; hard disk (4Mb); mouse.
Speed load: After installation type: `c:` [Enter]. Then type: `cd\games\settlers` [Enter], and finally: `seddlers` [Enter]. For instructions on running the game with soundcards, see page 8.



Don't forget to type: `seddlers` instead of `settlers` to run the game.

PINBALL DREAMS 2

See page 11

Those generous people at Spidersoft/ 21st Century Entertainment offer you unlimited balls for five minutes on this blinding demo of *Pinball Dreams 2*, which features a B-movie style table called Revenge of the Robot Warriors.

Min. system: 560K; VGA; 33MHz 386; hard disk (1.1Mb).
Speed load: After installation type: `c:` [Enter]. Then type: `cd\games\dreams2` [Enter], and finally: `pd2demo` [Enter].

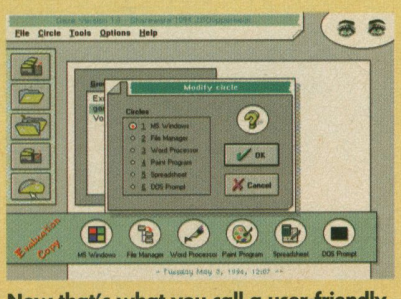


Boost your scores with the ZAP bonuses. This player's about to get a double bonus.

GAZE See page 12

First there was *Glimpse*, then there was *Glance*, and now we bring you shareware phenomenon *Gaze*. You can create your own front end with this user-cuddly Windows-style menu program, which as well as giving easy access to your programs also lets you fix passwords to stop anyone from running sensitive software.

Min. system: 512K; VGA; 8086/88; hard disk (370K).
Speed load: After installation type: `c:` [Enter]. Then type: `cd\gaze` [Enter], followed by: `gaze` [Enter].



Now that's what you call a user-friendly graphical user interface.

THE *PCF* CD-ROM

You may be perfectly happy with your Coverdisk, but there's more to PC entertainment than this. Yes, the CD-ROM edition of *PC FORMAT* was probably nestling beside the magazine you brought home from the newsagent (or in the envelope next to yours if you're a subscriber). The CD is chock-a-block with 550Mb of games, programs and demos, which will take at least a month to work your way through. If you have bought the CD-ROM edition then trip merrily to page 34 where you can find your special 16-page supplement, in which we show you how to get the most from your Disc.



Just imagine how much fun this could give you.

Do this first!

Installing the programs from our Coverdisk couldn't be easier. Just follow our step-by-step guide.

1 Turn on your PC.
2 Make a backup of the Coverdisk by inserting it into a floppy disk drive, metal bit first with the label face up and typing the following:

`diskcopy a: a:` [Enter] or
`diskcopy b: b:` [Enter]

Make sure you have another high-density disk handy and follow the on-screen prompts.
3 When it's finished copying, type: `a:` [Enter] if you have put the Disk in your A: drive, or `b:` [Enter] if the Disk is in your B: drive.
4 Load the Coverdisk menu program by typing: `pcf` [Enter].
5 If you want to install the programs on to your C: drive, go to step 6. If you want to install the programs to your D: drive, use the cursor keys to highlight the 'Select Default Destination Hard Disk' line and press [Enter].
6 Use the cursor keys to highlight the name of the program you want to install, and press [Enter].
7 You can now decide to which directory the program is to be installed. Press [Enter] to accept the default choice. Or, if you want to select your own directory, highlight 'Edit', press [Enter] and then type in your choice of directory and press [Enter].
8 When you are happy with the installation directory, highlight 'Accept' and press [Enter].
9 The program files are then copied on to your hard disk and you are prompted to press a key. After you have done so, you are returned to the main menu.
10 Repeat the procedure for any other Coverdisk programs you wish to install. When you have finished, highlight 'Exit to DOS' and press [Enter].
11 You are now at the DOS prompt. Follow the instructions on the following pages for details of how to run and use your programs.

No viruses, and that's guaranteed

We check all of our Coverdisks with the very latest version of *Dr Solomon's Anti-Virus Toolkit* (£116.32 from S&S International on ☎ 0442 877877) to ensure that they have not been infected with viruses at any stage.

The Settl

Playable preview

By Blue Byte

Telephone 0727 868005

Full game price £39.99

Available now



The good citizens of Settlers-ville Arizona gather for their annual festival of *Hawaii-5-0* impersonations. Book him Danno.

How to load The Settlers

1 Install the program by following the Do this first! instructions on the left of this page.
2 To run *The Settlers* you need a minimum system of 4Mb of free RAM. Switch on your PC and at the DOS prompt type: `cd\games\settlers` [Enter].
3 What you type next depends on which soundcard you're using. If you own a soundcard, start the game by typing one of the following and pressing [Enter]:
`sb` for Sound Blaster
`sbp` for Sound Blaster Pro
`pas` for Pro-Audio-Spectrum
`algold` for AdLib Gold
In this demo the standard-settings for IRQ are supposed. If you just want to start the game without worrying about sound, then just type: `seddlers` [Enter].
4 The demo is scaled down in several ways. Some of the full game's functions are not included, for example the SVGA graphics mode, and the game runs for one hour before returning to the main screen again. For extra information consult the readme.txt file.
5 Player one uses the mouse. If a second player wants to join in, they should use a joystick. After loading *Settlers* the title screen appears and, with a single mouse-click, you enter the main menu.
6 In the middle of the screen you can choose from demo, one-player and two-player modes. On the lower half of the screen you can see the slots for a maximum of four contestants. The three bars next to the pictures represent the stock (blue), the intelligence (green) and the birth-rate (red). Cycle through the different races of people by clicking on their faces. To vary the size of the playing area click on the globes.
7 Press the Start symbol on the left to begin. The line drawn across the top of the screen represents the computer designing the game-world. Every time you play, the layout of the world is different.

How to play The Settlers

The demo is designed to help you get to grips with the controls, and design a small settlement of your own. The full version of the game is virtually unlimited in playing time, but an hour is long enough to get a good feeling of how



Keep your transport networks as direct and flat as possible. That way, your people can get about quickly.

ers

the game plays and also to have some fun as well.

1 On the game screen there is a part of the world and a menu of five icons at the bottom of the screen. To move the area you see, hold down the right mouse-button and move the mouse in any direction you like. To reach a distant area quickly, click on the map icon in the menu (the central one). This calls up the map screen. If you now click somewhere on the map, the screen automatically switches to that particular location.

2 To start the game you must decide where to pitch your colony, which all begins with a castle. For huge buildings like the castle you should look for flat ground. Because it's not always easy to find the type of ground you need, a help function has been included. With a special-click (hold down the right mouse-button before pressing the left mouse-button) on the left icon in the menu, the program shows you all of the possible locations where you can position a building. Choose the position you want for your castle and click on the left icon again. The castle is now built for free – every other building costs you stones and wooden planks. Once the castle has been erected a border appears around it. This defines the area within which you can start on other buildings.

3 When you want to build use the help function to find a proper location. Then click on the left icon again and you are presented with a variety of houses to choose from. An arrow symbol on the edge of the buildings window enables you to flip through the different buildings. Make your selection and a foundation stone appears in that position or, if it is a larger building, a cross marking the spot where the workers have to level the ground appears instead.

4 To erect a building you need to ensure that there is a pathway between the site and the castle. Paths always run between flags. Click on one of the two flags you want to link. On the left side of the menu the icon changes into the pathway icon, which you should click on next. New symbols appear around the flag, representing the directions in which it is possible to build a path. A symbol coloured with yellow and red stripes means you can't build the path in that direction. The different symbols show varying route gradient. If you build a flat route, then the Settlers move around faster.



The large castle at the centre of this pic is your base, from whence your little workers will spew forth.



Call up this screen to illustrate how many citizens are carrying out particular jobs in your settlement.

Coverdisk Tips

Pitch your castle on a stretch of good flat land, as close as possible to some trees and a lake.

5 Now your Settlers start working. A so-called carrier leaves the castle, responsible for the delivery of the goods that are needed at the construction site. Another worker with a yellow helmet walks to the building site to build the house or to level the ground with his shovel first. Stones and planks are delivered to the site and after a short while the building is finished and prepared for the workers.

6 You don't have to sit and wait for the people to come to the buildings. You can immediately start to give further orders for more houses. To enlarge your territory you must build watch-huts, watch-towers or garrisons. When they are finished and some knights have moved into them, the border is moved further outwards and you then have even more space to build some more houses.

7 See the boxout below for an explanation of what each building does. Follow common sense when placing buildings. For example, place sawmills by the forests and boat yards and fishermens' buildings by the lake. The second icon from the left can be used to pull up a diagnostic of the land value for farming and mining.

8 The two symbols on the right lead you into some statistics and option menus. The symbols help to establish how well you're doing. Use the chart below to read off the information.

How to quit

If you are in the game demo, go to the icon on the far right, pull up the menu and select Quit. This takes you back to the main menu. To leave the game, now click on the small, brown box in the top left-hand corner.

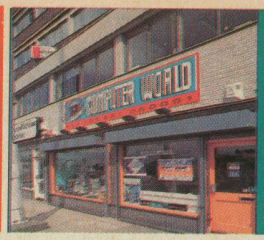
MORE THAN JUST BRICKS AND MORTAR...

Since the program doesn't offer much guidance as to which building does what, here is a handy reference card which comes with the complete game.



PHOENIX COMPUTER WORLD

FREE FAST! UK DELIVERY • SAME DAY DESPATCH* • ALL PRICES ARE EX-VAT



NEW PC CENTRE open NOW!

SERVING THE NORTH OF ENGLAND!
Come and see our comprehensive range of 386 and 486 ELITE SYSTEMS
Video capture systems on demo.
Situated right next door to the main Computer World Super-Store
All PC components at discount prices!

TOSHIBA · CITIZEN · HEWLETT PACKARD · Panasonic · SONY · USRobotics · TDK · TOSHIBA

SOUND CARDS

CREATIVE
CREATIVE LABS

Sound Blaster v.2....£40.00
8-Bit Card. Value Pack

Sound Blaster Pro...£70.00
8-Bit Card. Value Pack.

Sound Blaster 16....£80.00
(16-Bit Card)Value Pack. EXCELLENT VALUE



Sound Blaster MCD 16 .....£125.00
16-Bit Card with triple CD Interface for Mitsumi, Panasonic and Sony.

Sound Blaster MCD 16 ADSP £140.00
16-Bit Card with triple CD Interface for Mitsumi, Panasonic and Sony.

SB SCSI-2.....£140.00
SB SCSI-2 ADSP.£155.00

VIDEO PRODUCTS
Video Blaster SE...£210.00
AV Coder.....£120.00

SOUND BLASTER 16
AWE-32.....£199.00
Soundblaster 16 ASP M CD with Wave Blaster. Onboard ROM provides 4 Mb of PCM samples. The advanced signal processor chip reduces cpu overhead by up to 60% if recording CD quality sound.

Wave Blaster £145.00
MIDI Blaster £180.00

ORCHID · ORCHID · ORCHID · ORCHID

SOUND PRODUCER..£45.00
8-bit Mono Sound card **2** Maximum sample rate of 22KHz (rec. and playback) **3** Ad Lib, Sound Blaster compatible **4** Includes speakers

SOUND PRODUCER PRO £65.00
8-bit Stereo sound card. **2** Maximum sampling rate of 44KHz **3** Software includes Monologue text to speech system **4** CD player and mixing control board has a connector for CD audio out)
OUTSTANDING VALUE AND PRICE!

SOUND WAVE 32.....£150.00
All new wave table synthesis DSP technology on board providing all new exhilarating sound **2** Roland support **3** 190 perfectly balanced real sound samples **4** Full Soundblaster compatibility **5** Supports Roland MT-32 **6** Midi and Windows Sound System **7** Built in CD interface **8** Includes speakers

GAME WAVE 32.....£110.00
Same specification as the Soundwave 32 but does not have the record option

SOUND GALAXY

SGX II Extra.....£48.00
16-bit Mono sound card **2** 2 sound standards, Ad Lib, Sound Blaster V.2 **3** Dynamic Filtering **4** Built-in amp **5** Full mixer support **6** FREE speakers **7** 13 software titles

Music 16.....£95.00



1 Five sound standards, Ad Lib, Soundblaster V2.0, Sound Blaster Pro II, MS Windows sound system, Covox Speech thing, Disney Snd Source **2** Dynamic Filtering **3** Built-in amp **4** Full mixer support **5** Built-in CD-ROM interface for Panasonic, Mitsumi drives (optional upgrade to Sony) **6** 14 Software titles **7** Wavetable Synthesis upgrade **8** FREE headphones

Sound 16 Extra FP NEW! £125.00
1 FREE microphone and Headphones **2** Voice recognition program **3** Multimedia Business Software **4** Now with 17 Utilities including Audiostation.

Sound Galaxy SCSI Extension £28.00
Sound Galaxy MIDI adaptor cable £11.00
Sound Galaxy Wave Power for basic 16 & 16 Extra.....£92.00

GRAVIS-LOGITECH
Gravis S/card v3.4.....£130.00
Gravis S/card v2.1.....£90.00
(Earlier version however great value.)
Logitech Soundman 16.....£110.00

CD-ROM DRIVES

Panasonic Panasonic Panasonic

Panasonic CR562B
NEW LOW PRICE!



£135.00

•MPC compliance •True Multi Session •Photo-CD compatible, • Dual Speed drive, •150/300 Kb/s, •XA support, •3 way eject, •Directly compatible with all Sound Galaxy Products ie no need for interface card.

CR562B Interface.....£15.00
AT Bus interface for Panasonic CR562B CD-ROM Drive, suitable for Sony/Mitsumi

Panasonic CR562B External version.....£175.00

MITSUMI

Mitsumi LU005S ONLY £100.00
internal fitting, single speed, multisession.

Mitsumi FX001D ONLY £150.00
internal fitting, Dual speed, multisession, Both the above options include 2 FREE CD's

TOSHIBA TOSHIBA

XM3401 B double speed series
SPEC
•Capacity up to 638Mb, •200 m/sec access time •SCSI-2 interface sealed enclosure •MPC and Kodak Photo CD compatible

XM3401-B internal £285.00
XM3401-S external £385.00
XM4101-B internal £185.00
XM4101-S external £245.00

NB. All the above drives are BARE CD-ROM Drives

Future Domain TMC850MCD (interface Kit for Toshiba) inc. card, card cable and software £55.00

N.B. ADD £15.00 for external SCSI cable if ordering a TOSHIBA EXTERNAL drive as well as the above kit at £55.00.

SONY SONY

Sony CDU 31A-08 ONLY £120.00
Internal fitting, dual speed multisession

Sony CDU 31A NEW! £175.00
External fitting, dual speed multisession

NEC NEC NEC

Multispin 2xi.....£160.00
Multispin 3xi.....£290.00
Multispin 3xe.....£340.00
Multispin 3xp.....£295.00
Multispin 4xPro.....£650.00
Standard XT/AT PC (IF155).....£65.00
Standard SCISI Parallel (NEC SCSI)..£80.00

ORCHID NEW · ORCHID NEW

Orchid CD Drive ...£150.00
DualSpeedMulti Session.

Multimedia Bundle Pack.....£280.00
1 Soundwave 32 **2** Orchid CDS - 3110 CD-ROM drive Speakers **3** Microphone **4** ZOOL 2 **5** 'Rave' MIDI sequencing software.

CD-ROM OFFER

Unbeatable CD-Drive and software bundle offer!
AN UNBEATABLE SUMMER DEAL!

PACK 1
Choose the SONY CDU33A-01 or Mitsumi FX001D (both multisession, dual speed)

AND YOU GET:
1)Return to Zork. 2)Humans 1+2. 3)Indiana Jones & the fate of Atlantis. 4)Day of the Tentacle. 5)Ultima Underworld. 6)Wing Commander 2. 7)Comptons Interactive Encyclopaedia. 8)Graphic Works. 9)Anecdote 10)Animator. 11)Sneek Peeks...

All for..£185.00

PACK 2
Same 11 software titles as above when you choose the Panasonic CR562 B

All for..£195.00

TOP 50 CD-ROM LEISURE TITLES

UNBEATABLE BARGAINS

SAM & MAX (Talkie)	£30.00
Rebel Assault	£30.00
Dune/7th Guest	£35.00
Mega Race NEW!	£25.00
Microcosm	£32.00
MS Encarta	£70.00
Battle Isle 2	£30.00
Dragons Lair	£34.00
Elite 2: Frontier	£25.00
Ultima 8 + speech pack	£38.00
Ravenloft	£30.00
Lawnmower Man	£35.00
Comanche Max.Overkill	£29.00
Who Shot Johnny Rock	£38.00
Wolfpack	£20.00
Tornado & Desert Storm	£30.00
10 Year Anthology	£30.00
Iron Helix	£30.00
Day of the Tentacle (Talkie)	£26.00
Myst-AWSOME!	£40.00
JourneymanProject	£26.00
Star Trek (25th Anvsry)	£50.00
MS Art Gallery	£35.00
Mad Dog McCree	£30.00
Horde	£45.00
Indy Jones-Fate of Atlnts	£30.00
Dragonsphere	£26.00
City 2000	£30.00
Dinosaurs(Windows)	£35.00
Dracula Unleashed	£35.00
Nomad	£25.00
Demonsgate	£30.00
Winter Summer Challenge	£20.00
Critical Path	£35.00
Demonsgate	£35.00
Musical Instruments	£35.00
MS Golf	£35.00
Alone in the Dark	£20.00
Shadowcaster	£35.00
Classic Collection	£25.00
Cinemania	£40.00
Ultima 7 Bundle	£35.00

HUNDREDS MORE IN STOCK!

SHAREWARE

Kodak Photo CD	£20.00
Graphic Works CD (Full version with manual)	£75.00
Ada	£20.00
Aminet	£20.00
C User group Library	£20.00
CICA M/soft Windows	£20.00
Garbo	£20.00
GIF's Galore	£20.00
GIGA Games	£22.00
Libris Britannia	£25.00
Linux/GNU/X Op Syst	£22.00
NOVA for NEXTs	£20.00
Project Guttenberg	£20.00
Simtel 20	£20.00
Source Code	£22.00
XIIRD	£22.00
Clipart Goliath	£15.00
Complete Bookshop	£15.00
Deathstar Arcade	£15.00
Dictionaries/Language	£15.00
Encyclopedia of Sound Vol 1	

PC JOYSTICKS

Quickshot Warrior	£10.00
Saitek Mega Grip	£12.00
Flightstick	£35.00
Comp Pro PC XTRA	£15.00
Speedking Digital	£12.00
Quickshot Aviator	£18.00
Saitek Megapad	£10.00
Gravis PC Black (Digital)	£26.00
Gravis PC Flight Stick (Analogue)	£30.00
Gravis Game Pad	£20.00
Mach 1 Ideal for flight simms.	£18.00
FX2000	£20.00
Game Smart Card	£18.00

No Joystick port? New card is Ideal for 386/486.

DISKS

BULK High Quality 3.5" DS/HD disks inc. labels

10	£5.30	50	£25.00
100	£49.00	500	£232.00
1000			£445.00

TDK- Certified 100% Error FREE inc labels

10	£8.00	50	£39.00
100	£76.00	500	£370.00

LOGITECH

=REDUCED!

SCANMAN HAND HELD SCANNERS

Scanman Colour PC.....£280.00
for Windows. Inc. FotoTouch for image editing

Scanman Easy Touch NEW! £190.00
for Win and Omnipage direct. Inc FotoTouch Colour image editing software & Omnipage Direct OCR software for Logitech.

Scanman 256 PC.....£150.00
for Windows Inc. FotoTouch for image editing

Scanman 256 MCA.... £125.00
for Windows. Inc. FotoTouch for image editing

Scanman 32 PC..... £100.00
for Win and Omnipage direct. Inc FotoTouch Colour image editing software & Omnipage Direct OCR software for Logitech.

Scanman 32 PC..... £70.00
for DOS & Catch Word DOS. Inc Gray Touch image editing software & Catchword for DOS OCR software.

Scanman 32.....£150.00
for Apple Macintosh. Inc. Image editing software.

ScanPad.....£10.00
for hand held scanners.

PC GAMES CONTROLLER

CyberMan 3D..... NEW! £60.00
interactive controller for PC games with tactile feedback and full 3D motion.

LOGITECH

MICE & TRACKBALLS

PILOT MOUSE FAMILY

Pilot Mouse II £20.00
for PC. Serial version only.

Pilot Mouse II £20.00
for PC or PS/2. Mouseport version only

MOUSEMAN RANGE

Mouseman RH Combo £44.00
Mouseman LH Combo £35.00
Mouseman RH Bus Vs.....£40.00
Cordless RH Combo.....£65.00
Mouseman Apple Mac.....£44.00

TRACKMAN FAMILY

TrackMan Combo PC £40.00
TrackMan Mac.....£50.00
TrackMan Portable Combo £60.00

NEW! • POWER PAGE • NEW!
POWER PAGE..... NEW! £349.00
This boardless scanner is the complete easy to use office solution. Intergrated software provides one button scanning, faxing and copying. **FEATURES:** 256 greyscale • 400 dpi • TWAIN compliant • OLE - compatible • Unlimited product support for full 2 year guarantee.

VIDEO CAPTURE

IMAGE CAPTURE SYSTEMS

PHOENIX COMPUTER WORLD ARE AN AUTHORISED RESELLER OF ROMBO'S HIGHLY ACCLAIMED MULTI MEDIA PRODUCTS

VIDI PC 24...£170.00
FEATURES INCLUDE: 24 Bit Capture System • Up to 16.7 million colours • 256 Grey Scale images can be grabbed from moving video • Load/Save 24 Bit RGB, TIF, BMP. - VIDI P.C. 24 IS AN ABSOLUTE MUST!

VIDI PC 12...£115.00
FEATURES INCLUDE: 12 Bit Capture System • Up to 4096 colours • Less than a second to capture one video frame • 16 Grey Scale images can be grabbed from moving video.

MEDIA PRO+...£220.00
MEDIA PRO+...£240.00
Hi Res version

FEATURES INCLUDE: Full motion T.V./Video & sound on your windows 3.1 screen • Up to 2 million colours • 256 Grey Scale images can be grabbed from moving video • PAL/NTSC Composite/S Video inputs and RGB output.

ROMBO P.C. TUNER Brand new device designed to work in conjunction with Media Pro Plus, allows normal T.V. to be watched while using any windows based programme. Rombo P.C. tuner works with all C&T Phillips Chipset implementations - supports the PAL Standard.
PRICE.....£100.00

VGA-TV BUSTER PRO
INTERNAL/EXTERNAL MODE AVAILABLE
PRICE.....£100.00

ORCHID VIDIOLA..£280.00
1 Capture real time video to disk from V.C.R., video camera or TV tuner at 30 f.p.s. **2** Unique "Superzoom" full screen, full motion video playback. **3** Includes Adobe Premier video editing package **4** Includes SSYMEDIA PE software forintergrating text and graphics screens into presentations.

NEW

U.S. ROBOTICS

AUTHORISED RESELLER

5 YEAR WARRANTY



Sportster ...£149.99
14,400 external fax/modem with Quicklink II software. Includes standard modem cable. **BRILLIANT VALUE!**

Sportster 14.4+Fax int.....£149.99
Sportster 2400+Fax ext.....£94.99
Sportster 14.4+Mac/fax ext.....£149.99
Courier V32 TERBO bis+fax ext..£280.99
Courier TERBO +Dual std ext...£325.99
Worldport 14.4+Fax pocket.....£190.99
Worldport PCMCIA 14.4+Fax....£220.99
Worldport PCMCIA 2496+Fax....£150.99

GRAPHICS CARDS?

Orchid Graphics Cards provide very high quality and unbeatable value for money!

Farenheit VA 1Mb.....£140.00
Farenheit VA/VLB 1Mb £145.00
Farenheit VA/VLB 2Mb £170.00
Farenheit (no VA) 1Mb £100.00
Farenheit VLB (no VA) 1Mb £130.00
Farenheit VLB (no VA) 2Mb £155.00
Celsius VLB 1Mb.....£140.00
Celsius VLB 2Mb.....£180.00

MAIN PC COMPONENTS +PERIPHERALS

Low cost High quality up-grades from the experts. Fast fitting service available on any item. Ask for a quote.

MOTHER BOARDS (ISA)

386 SX-40	AMD	£54.00
386 DX-40 (128K)	AMD	£79.00

MOTHER BOARDS (VLB)

486 SX-25 (256K)	Intel	£140.00
486 DX-33 (256K)	Intel	£280.00
486 DX-40 (256K)	Cyrix	£270.00
486 DX2-50 (256K)	Intel	£294.00
486 DX-50 (256K)	Intel	£399.00
486 DX2-66 (256K)	Intel	£376.00
Pentium 60 Mhz		£739.00
Pentium 66 Mhz		£847.00

MOTHER BOARDS (VLB) NO CPU

Hippo Octek VL + DCA	£79.00
AN4 SIS 486 (72 pin SIMM)	£89.00

CPU's

486 SX-25	Intel	£65.00
486 DX-33	Intel	£212.00
486 DX-40	Cyrix	£199.00
486 DX2-50	Intel	£220.00
486 DX-50	Intel	£329.00
486 DX2-66	Intel	£309.00

MEMORY

1Mb SIMMS	£36.00
4Mb SIMMS	£157.00

I/O CARDS

Multi I/O	£11.00
Multi I/O	£19.00

GRAPHICS CARDS

Trident SVGA card (1 Mb)	£51.00
1 Mb Cirrus Logic SVGA	£59.00
1 Mb Cirrus Logic SVGA 5428 VLB	£70.00

CASES

Minitower	£49.00
Desktop	£51.00
Slimline	£63.00
Fulltower	£97.00
Power Supply	£51.00

FLOPPY DISK DRIVES

1.44 Mb HD 3.5"	£34.00
1.2 Mb HD 5.25"	£42.00

MONITORS

Samtron 14" NI LR SVGA (0.28)	£195.00
17" SVGA NI	£709.00

KEYBOARDS

102 Key AT Mitsumi/Chicony	£15.00
102 Key AT Fujitsu	£39.00

HARD DRIVES

214 Mb HD	£162.00
270 Mb HD	£182.00
340 Mb HD	£219.00
420 Mb HD	£229.00

MISC

486 Heatsink/Cooler Fan 12v	£8.75
Internal 2-1 Power Splitter	£4.50
Low Cost Serial Mouse	£9.50

HOW TO ORDER

TO ORDER BY PHONE:
0532 350091
Quoting your Credit Card No.

EUROCARD · VISA · AMERICAN EXPRESS Cards Welcome · SWITCH · MasterCard · Access

For Customers not able to visit our Showroom we offer one of the fastest and most complete mail order services available.
STANDARD DELIVERY FREE
Next day delivery only £6.00. 2 day delivery £5.00

BY POST TO:
PHOENIX COMPUTER WORLD, UNIT 2, YORK TOWERS, 383 YORK ROAD, LEEDS LS9 6TA.

Please make cheques payable to Phoenix. Allow 5 working days for cheque clearance.
*Same-Day Despatch on Credit Card Orders/ bankers draft/ building society cheque/ Postal orders.

FAX: (0532) 350702

E&O.E.* All sales subject to our terms and conditions of business, prices can vary either up or down. Please confirm current price when ordering

Pinball Dreams 2

Coverdisk Tips

Use the tilt function to drop the ball through the ZAP Rollovers. It's an easy and effective way to bump up your score.

Playable preview

By 21st Century Entertainment

Telephone 0235 851533

Full game price £19.99

Available in June

How to load Pinball Dreams 2

1 Install the program by following the Do this first! instructions on page 8.

2 To run the game you need a minimum system of 560K free RAM, VGA and a 33MHz 386. At the DOS prompt type: `cd\games\dreams2` [Enter].

3 To set the game up to run with sound, type: `setsound` [Enter]. This takes you to a menu screen. Use the cursor keys to move the highlight bar over your soundcard, then press [Enter]. If you don't have a soundcard, select PC speaker. If you have a soundcard you may be asked to provide more details about it. If you want to change the defaults follow the directions given by the menus. You are also asked about the sound quality you want to run. Remember that on a lower spec PC, the scrolling is affected if you choose too high a sound quality.

4 Run *Pinball Dreams 2* by typing: `pd2demo` [Enter].

5 When the program is loaded you are presented with a series of intro screens. Hit any button to skip through them. The game runs for five minutes, giving the player unlimited balls.

How to play Pinball Dreams 2

What do you need to know? It's pinball. You and a steel ball in a battle of gravity and point scores. Launch the ball by pulling the spring back with the down cursor key. The longer you hold the key the faster the ball launches. Then struggle to keep the ball in play with your flippers at the base of the screen, which you control using the [Shift] keys at the bottom left and right of the keyboard. If you want to give the table a bit of a bang you can push the [Spacebar] to tilt it. Pressing [P] pauses the action. It's as simple as that. See What Does What? for details on what the various elements of the table do.

How to quit

If you are in the demo, pressing [Esc] takes you back to the intro screen. Pressing [Esc] again when you are on the screen detailing the key presses takes you back to the DOS prompt.

Hit Those Hi Scores

ZAP ROLLOVERS
Each time you spell ZAP you earn a bonus. The lights can be cycled through by using the left and right flipper keys.

MIDDLE PASSAGE
Shooting a ball through here fixes the flashing green arrow and enables the Hide bonus on the Right Ramp.

PSYCHO TUNNEL
Go up the tunnel and you are awarded the currently enabled weapons bonus.

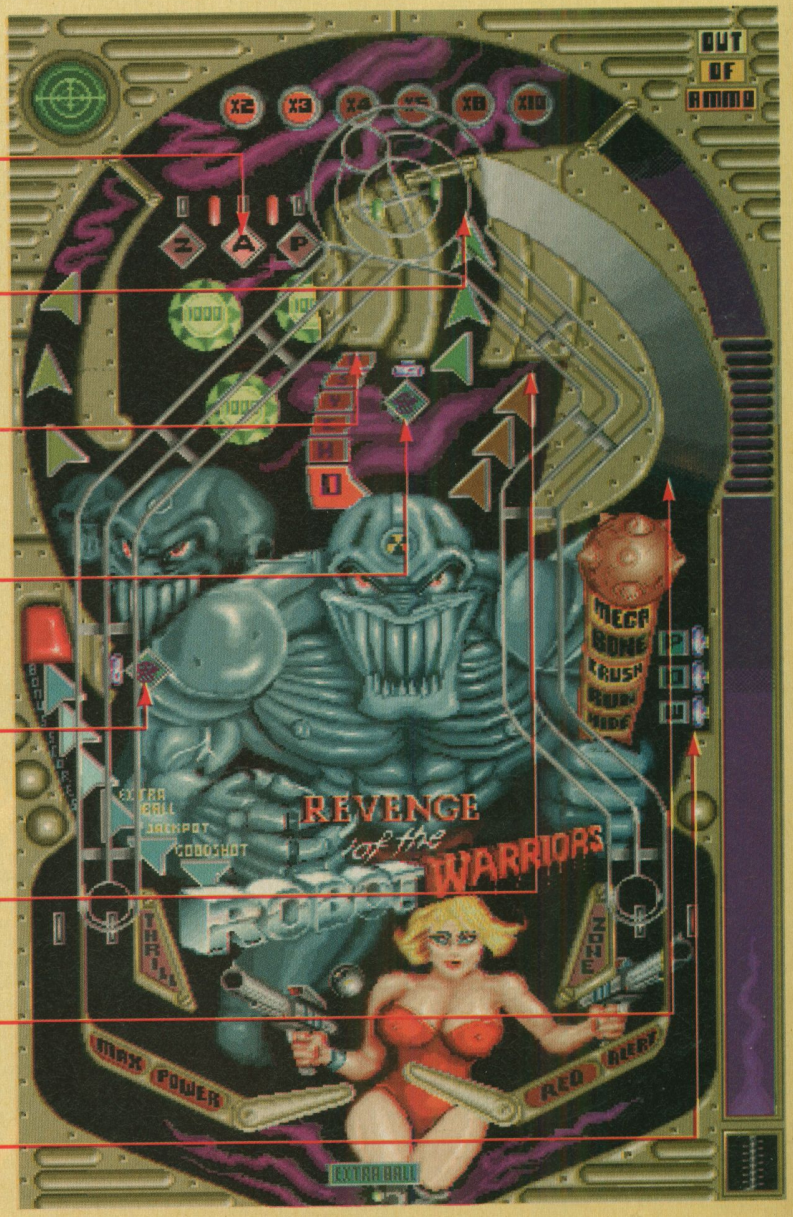
TOP SKULL SWITCH
This enables the Frantic bonus, which is not lit – shooting the ball up the Right Ramp enables you to collect the bonus.

LEFT SKULL SWITCH
Hitting this enables a Psycho letter. Shooting the ball up the Right Ramp lights the letter.

RIGHT PASSAGE
Shooting a ball through here fixes the flashing orange arrow and enables the next arrow. Fixing all three enables the Mega Bonus on the Right Ramp.

RIGHT RAMP
Shooting the ball up the Right Ramp awards any enabled bonuses.

POW DROP TARGETS
Lighting all three letters enables a weapons bonus.



Gaze

Shareware menu program

From J Schipperheijn

Registration fee £15

Available from Author, see program for details

Address: Postbus 1494, 5602 BL Eiendhoven, The Netherlands

How to load Gaze

1 Install the program by following the Do this first! instructions on page 8.

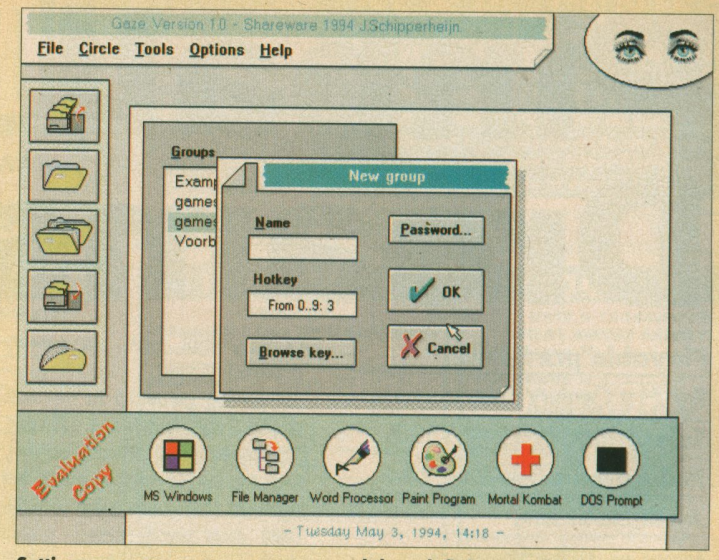
2 Switch on your PC and at the DOS prompt type: `cd\gaze` [Enter], and then: `gaze` [Enter].

How to use Gaze

The best use for *Gaze* is as a menu program for loading up applications and other programs easily, without mucking about with Windows. You can run DOS applications without having to switch to the DOS prompt, as you frequently would from, say, Windows, on top of which *Gaze* has a very quick start up time. If you have a lower spec machine and can't actually run Windows, *Gaze* is particularly useful. Additionally you can close program groups or specific programs with passwords, which can stop modification or running of sensitive material. Look after your passwords though!

The whole idea behind *Gaze* is that it should be as user-friendly as possible, so the interface is highly intuitive. Anyone familiar with WIMP systems (Windows Icon Mouse Pointer) shouldn't have too many problems. Although stylistically it appears to borrow a lot from Windows, it was written with entirely new code. The best way to learn how the program works is to look through the help facility and check out the gaze.doc file for extra documentation.

The walk-through illustrated below should get you started. It shows how to set up a program which you've already installed on your hard drive, so that it can be accessed through one of the program circles at the base of the screen, setting up a path and then choosing an appropriate icon to go with it.



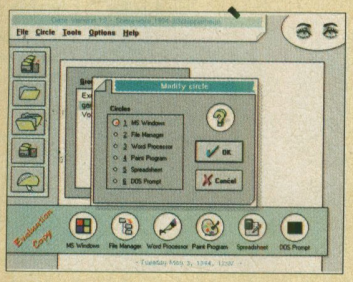
Setting up a new program group and then defining a Hot Key to run it with couldn't be easier, than with the fantastically useful *Gaze*.

How to quit

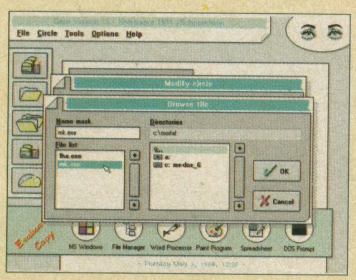
Select Exit from the file menu or press [Alt] and [X].

Coverdisk Tips

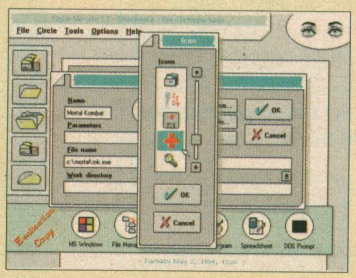
If you register you receive the complete program, plus loads of other shareware by the author.



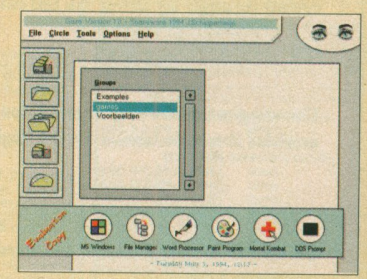
1 Choose the bottom symbol from the icon bar on the left of the screen (the one which looks like a kebab) and you are presented with a menu listing the circle titles. Double-click on the circle you wish to change.



2 Select the Browse File command and look through the directories until you find the command to load the program you desire. *Gaze* remembers the path. Click on OK when you've chosen the route.



3 Now you can change the name of the circle and select an icon to represent it. Use the Browse Icon menu to pull up the icon list and click on your choice. Clicking on OK returns you to the desktop.



4 To load the selected program, just double-click on the circle. The circles are designed for your six most frequently used programs, so work out which ones you use most before setting them up.

PROBLEM? NO PROBLEM

If you run into any difficulties with the Coverdisk, then our troubleshooter is ready and waiting to sort you out.

1. Follow the instructions in the 'Do this first' column on page 8.

2. If you have trouble running a program, it might be because you need to free up more conventional memory. Conventional memory is memory below 640K. Even if you have a PC with 4Mb of RAM, that doesn't mean that you'll automatically have enough conventional memory to run the Coverdisk programs.

Check how much RAM you have free by typing: `mem` [Enter]. If the figure beside the line "largest executable program size" is less than around 550K, your system probably isn't set up properly.

3. You can free up more memory by editing your system files. The exact commands you need to include depend on which make and version of DOS you're using. For MS-DOS 5 and above, you should have the following lines in your system files:

Config.sys

```
device=c:\dos\himem.sys
device=c:\dos\emm386.exe RAM
dos=high,umb
```

Autoexec.bat

```
@echo off
path c:\;c:\dos
prompt $p$g
loadhigh c:\mouse\mouse
```

4. Another way to free up more conventional memory is to remove Terminate and Stay Resident (TSR) programs that are automatically loaded by the system files. The following lines are not essential for using the Coverdisk. If you see them in your system files, disable them by putting `rem` at the start of the line.

Config.sys
Any line containing smartdrv.sys, display.sys or country.sys.

Autoexec.bat
Any line containing smartdrv or doskey. Any line that loads a memory-resident virus checker.

When you have finished using the Coverdisk programs, you can return your system to its previous state by removing the 'rem' commands and then rebooting your PC.

5. Programs will not run if they are not compatible with your display card. The details on page 7 tell you what display is required for each program – most require at least a VGA monitor.

6. If your Disk still won't work, check the contents by typing:

`dir a:` [Enter] or `dir b:` [Enter]

If you don't get a list of the files on the Disk, then your Disk is either blank or corrupt. If the files are there, try using the 'chkdsk' command by typing in the following command:

`a:` [Enter] or `b:` [Enter]
`chkdsk` [Enter]

If an error message referring to bad sectors appears, part of the Disk is damaged. In this case you can get a replacement by sending your damaged Disk to our Disk duplicators at the following address. Enclose a self-addressed envelope – we will pay the postage.

***PC FORMAT* June Disk**
DisCopy Labs plc
PO Box 21
Daventry
North Hants, NN11 5BU

PLEASE DO NOT return Coverdisks to us at the Monmouth Street office because we can't replace them.

7. If it isn't a Windows program, make sure that you quit out of Windows to DOS before running it.

COVERDISK HOTLINE

If you still have trouble with a specific program and you've read all the documentation, give us a call on **Monday afternoons between 2pm and 6pm on ☎ 0225 442244**

All of the software on the *PCF* Coverdisk has been written by other people. If we can't help you, we can put you in touch with someone who can. While we make every effort to ensure that our Coverdisk works on as many PCs as possible, there are of course setups we can't check.

EARN YOURSELF UP TO £400

If you've written a program that you think would be useful to *PCF* readers, send it to us and if we use it on the Coverdisk you could earn up to £400. If you send a program, include the following details:

- **Program name and instructions on how to use it.**
- **The RAM, display type and processor required to run it.**
- **Your name, address and daytime telephone number.**

Send your program to: *PC FORMAT* Coverdisk Contribution, 30 Monmouth Street, Bath, Avon, BA1 2BW.

PREPARE TO ~~MEET~~ *Beat* THY DOOM



CORRIDOR 7

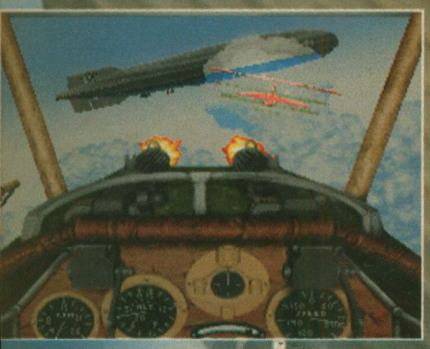
£19.99
PC Compatibles

Technology licensed from ID SOFTWARE, creators of
WOLFENSTEIN™ 3D

GAMETEK

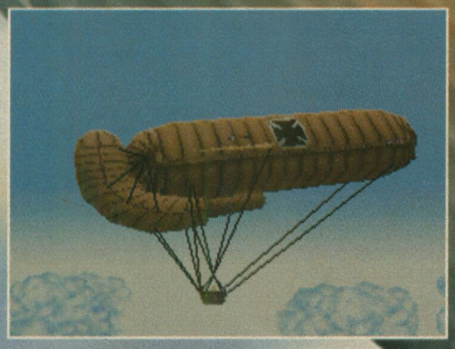
GAMETEK (UK) LIMITED, 5 Bath Road, Slough, Berks, SL1 3UA

Corridor 7 is the property of Capstone™



- This Camel spits lead! Fly five superbly crafted Allied and German WWI fighters. Learn to handle everything from the Sopwith Camel to the Fokker Dr. 1.

- Dogfight with enemy aces, take on two-seaters, bombers, balloons and zeppelins in any combination using the Instant Mission Generator.





- Hear the conflict just as the heroes did. 4-channel digital sound recreates the rush of the wind, the rapid fire of machine guns and the roar of exploding fighters.
- Re-live your greatest glories from any angle with the Mission Recorder.

- Wings of Glory improves on the glorious Strike Commander game engine with strikingly enhanced plane detail. Burst through clouds and shake the leaves from the trees.



Actual PC screens shown



WINGS OF GLORY™

Gasoline, canvas and raw courage.

It's not only angels that have wings. When you're duelling at dawn and the enemy's close enough to smell, it takes an unshakeable nerve to bring your canvas crate back home.

With no radar to guide you, radio communication or missiles, one slip and you'll be trading your flying helmet for a halo. But then no guts, no Wings of Glory.



ORIGIN®

We create worlds.®

Intel486™ DX2 Recommended

EA DIRECT

Wings of Glory is distributed in Europe by Electronic Arts, 90 Heron Drive, Langley, Berkshire SL3 8XP Tel: 0753 546465 • Wings of Glory is a trademark of Origin Systems, Inc. • Origin and We Create Worlds are registered trademarks of Origin Systems, Inc. • Intel486 is a trademark of Intel Corporation Electronic Arts is a registered trademark of Electronic Arts •

NEWS

ACORN GROWS UP

by Ed Ricketts

Acorn catches up with everyone else (as does the BBC), Microsoft swaps money with Stac, Virtual Reality rears its jerky polygonal head and we get into something of a competition frenzy, courtesy of Intel and Bullfrog. Ooh.

Acorn Computers is at last making its mark in the PC market with the launch of the RISC PC. But don't be fooled by the name, buying this machine doesn't immediately buy you a PC in the IBM-compatible sense. This is only possible through an upgrade.

The RISC PC is based on the 32-bit ARM 610 reduced instruction set computing processor, as used in the 3DO. It runs Acorn's own RISC operating system, which means that in this respect it isn't at all PC-compatible. However, the machine has a facility to add a second processor unit mounted on an expansion card, sharing the memory, input and output facilities of the ARM processor. The first such unit to become available will be a 25/33MHz 486SX PC card including chip-based DOS and Windows.

Fitting this effectively turns the machine into a 486 with a SVGA graphics accelerator capable of 800x600 resolution with 16 million colours. Because this process doesn't involve emulation, the machine should run at the same speed as a genuine PC.

Until now Acorn has rather stubbornly stuck with its own specialised brands of micro, first with the ubiquitous BBC Micro (which found its niche in educational establishments), and more recently with the RISC-based Archimedes, a powerful but non-standard and hence relatively unpopular machine. Acorn hopes that potential customers will at first be enticed by the PC compatibility, and then gradually become enamoured of the RISC PC's native charms. Given the prices, this may be the only reason you'd want such a machine. The entry-level RISC PC 600 with 2Mb of RAM and a 210Mb hard drive costs £1,468, with the expansion card costing £99 if bought with the machine or £199 if purchased later (though it isn't available until September). That's a lot of money to shell out for a 33MHz PC. Contact Acorn Computers on ☎ 0223 254254.



The RISC PC 600 is potentially PC-compatible, but is it really worth it? We think not.

Stop Press

Musical Mecca

MEMS '94 – April 22-24, Wembley Conference Centre, London

THE MIDI, ELECTRONIC MUSIC AND Recording Show, now in its fifth year, is a mecca for budding musicians, recording enthusiasts and sound engineers. Consuming vast tracts of the Wembley Conference Centre, MEMS '94 was bigger than ever. Although the show can hardly be described as cutting edge – little new product was on display – it's still an important landmark on the music calendar as far as the music hobbyist is concerned. The place was absolutely stuffed with kit and all the major manufacturers and distributors were in attendance, most of them offering assistance and equipment demonstrations to anyone who showed even a passing interest.

New Notations (☎ 081 871 5193) showed off *Finale 2.2* (£821), *Score* (£939, not to be confused with the Steinberg product of the same name) and a number of other up-market notation packages. At a more affordable price, PC Services (☎ 081 658 7251) attempted to whip up enthusiasm for its forthcoming Windows version of *Audition* (£100), which looked interesting, with features rivalling the highly respected *Encore 3.0*, at only half the price.

There were also some slick product demos in the public display area, in which Harman Audio (☎ 081 207 5050) put together the best presentation, showing off the full power of *Cubase Score* (£769, *PCF* 30, 85%). Another awe-inspiring performance came from Lew Stonehill, a highly capable guitarist who stunned attendees with an incredible display demonstrating the GR range of effects processors from Harman.

Although the usual box-shifters were present in generous measure, the show also played host to a number of the major industry players, including the likes of Yamaha (☎ 0908 366700), Roland (☎ 0252 816181), Akai (☎ 081 897 6388), Korg (☎ 081 427 5377) and Novation (☎ 0628 481992). The latter won many plaudits for its incredible analogue synth, Bass Station. This gorgeous mini-keyboard revives the rich variety of analogue sounds associated with classic keyboards such as the Roland TB-303, yet manages to cram everything into a compact casing.

Despite a vast number of products on display, Roland failed to generate much excitement, except for its clever backing creator, *Dr Rhythm Section*. And, speaking of apathy, there was also surprisingly little interest shown in Creative Labs' (☎ 0734 344322) new Sound Blaster AWE 32 soundcard. Expect a full review of this amazing bit of kit next month. PC Services was also demonstrating a tempting piece of software, the *PC Soundstation*, a revolutionary program that turns your soundcard into a MIDI-controlled sampler. It even enables you to convert MIDI music into .WAV-only scores, combining multiple samples to create chords when necessary.

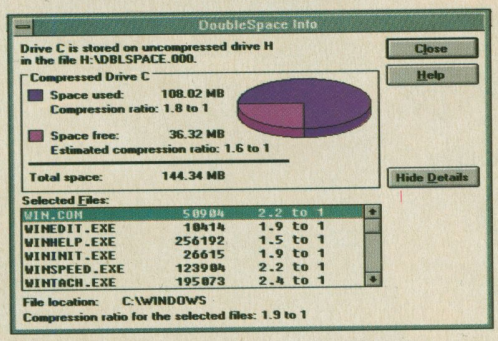
For the more serious-minded visitor, MEMS offered a staggering choice of professionally-run seminars, most of which were extremely well attended, demonstrating the public's enthusiasm and eagerness to learn. Even radio disk jockey Simon Bates got in on the act, showcasing the new VL-1 Duophonic Synth from Yamaha as first shown on *Tomorrow's World*.

DON'T PUT UP with it any longer. If you're being fleeced by an unscrupulous mail order firm, or fobbed off by a car mechanic, you need *120 Letters that Get Results*, the new disk from *Which?*. It's a collection of whingeing letters designed to kick unsatisfactory service providers up the arse. Each letter cites the relevant legislation and threatens an unsavoury outcome (in decent legal terms, obviously) if results aren't forthcoming. The disk also contains legal background info and a glossary. It's £34.99 from the Which? shop at 359-361 Euston Road, London, or call ☎ 0800 252100. "Dear Sirs, I recently purchased your *Letters* disk, and have found the results to be most unsatisfactory..."

THE WACKY WORLD OF COMPRESSION

by Ed Ricketts

Rather unusually, but undoubtedly amusingly for onlookers, both Microsoft and Stac Electronics have come off worse for wear in a suing situation. As you may know, Stac Electronics, producer of the Stacker compression system, took a violent dislike to Microsoft's DoubleSpace compressor as used in MS-DOS 6 onwards. A nasty court case ensued, resulting in Microsoft being forced to pay Stac $120 million in damages for violating two data compression patents. In the States, Microsoft was forced to release MS-DOS 6.21 without DoubleSpace (although, of course, current owners of DOS with DoubleSpace can still use it, and this country isn't affected at all).



The now-defunct DoubleSpace. If blue represents Microsoft's funds, purple is Stac's. Probably.

But then Microsoft bit back. The judge in the case found Stac guilty of reverse-engineering a feature in DOS 6 that preloads the compression driver before your config.sys and autoexec.bat are run. Because only an operating system developer could have included this, the decision was upheld in Microsoft's favour. Back went £13.7 million in damages from Stac to Microsoft. *Stacker 3.x* and *4.0* both use this preloading technique, so Microsoft is asking for a stop on the sale of all Stac products and an injunction. If this comes off, Stac will be in the rather embarrassing position of being forced to release a modified version of *Stacker*, while Microsoft forges ahead with its attempts to get the patent infringement verdict overturned.

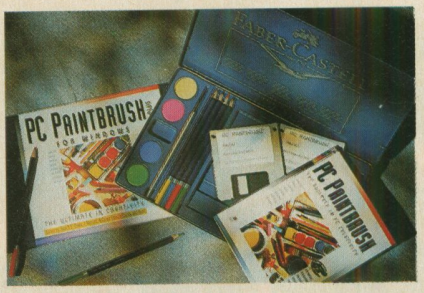
All this casts a rather voluminous shadow over the compression routines to be used in Chicago (Windows 4). If Microsoft wins its case, it can re-release DoubleSpace and incorporate it in Chicago. If not, it'll have to find a different engine, and that may not be possible in time, given that it's an integral part of the system.

And the moral of the story? Don't rip off a huge multinational company unless you're an even bigger multinational company. Or something like that.

SoftKey bonanza

SOFTKEY INTERNATIONAL IS PLEASED AS a punch in the face about its new acquisition, *WordStar for Windows 2*. This behemoth of the WP world (scoring 84% in our word processor round-up on page 108), normally sells for £176.19, but can now be yours for just £58.69. For a limited time only! Don't delay, order today! SoftKey is on ☎ 081 964 9149.

But it doesn't stop there. SoftKey has also teamed up with top crayon maker Faber-Castell to bundle *PC Paintbrush* inside a cute crayon and paint tin, which also contains real coloured pencils and watercolours. The program mimics materials such as charcoal, chalk and (yes!) crayons among its 87 painting tools. It's hoped that the packaging will appeal to retailers that are generally cautious of software. The program's now available in places like John Lewis and Beatties, priced at £29.95.



***PC Paintbrush*, replete with many a messy mark-maker for young 'uns.**

Stop Press

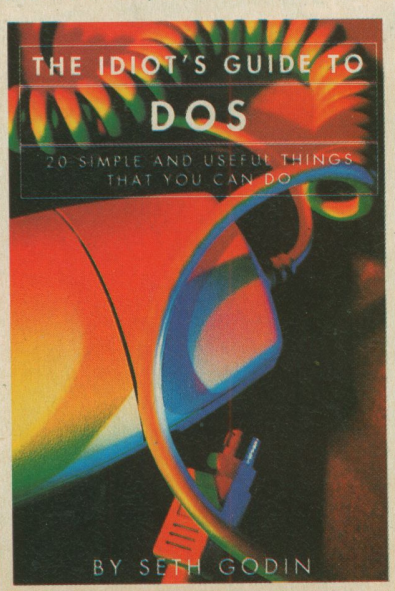
REMEMBER THE story we ran last month about the Computer Graphics Expo taking place in November? Of course you do, you're intelligent. The organisers have announced the formation of a Computer Games Development Centre there, as an acknowledgement of the games industry's influence on computer graphics. The centre will be a source of information and also a place where graphic developers can meet games publishers at the Expo. Once again, then, the expo runs from 8-10 November, details from Gerry Murray or Robert Montgomery on ☎ 081 995 3632.

MICROSOFT MAY as well give up on Chicago now (see page 26), because Quarterdeck has released *SideBar*, yet another Windows management utility, perhaps to manage all the other utilities you've got running. *(Is is possible to choke on your own cynicism? – Dan)* The *SideBar* interface includes the functions of both Program Manager and File Manager in one easy lump. Commonly-used applications can be dragged straight on to the desktop, where they can be started with a single click of the mouse. Every window includes a DOS command line and, like Chicago, the file system changes so that folders represent directories on the disk, with 255-character filenames possible. *SideBar* is £39.95 from Quarterdeck ☎ 0245 496699.

COMPUSERVE HAS increased its maximum baud rate to 14,400bps at long last. The previous highest access speed was a measly 9,600bps, charged at around £6.40 per hour, and the new rate costs the same, which is rather benevolent of CompuServe. At the moment only the London node is now capable of the faster rate, and its number is ☎ 071 490 8881.

Doh!

IF YOU'RE REALLY, *REALLY* HOPELESS with PCs – and we mean *desperately* hopeless – try *The Idiot's Guide to DOS* by Seth Godin, £2.99 from Macmillan. In big, clear words of one syllable, it shows you "really easy ways" to recover a deleted file, make a new subdirectory, sort a textfile, and so on. Also available: *Idiot's Guides to Windows, WordPerfect* and *Lotus 1-2-3*, also £2.99 each.



Gateway to power

GATEWAY 2000, THE FAST-FLOURISHING PC manufacturer, notches up more new models. Now available is its cryptic 4DX4-100P, based around Intel's newish 100MHz DX4 processor (50% faster than a 66MHz DX2, therefore highly desirable). The full specs are: PCI local bus motherboard, 8Mb of RAM, 540Mb PCI hard drive, 2Mb PCI graphics card, double-speed CD-ROM drive, 17-inch monitor and the usual gubbins. £2,231 buys you this wondrous kit.

If that's just not expensive enough for you, you'll want a 90MHz Pentium-based model from Gateway instead, the P5-90 Executive. Run your rheumy eyes over this: aforementioned Pent on a PCI motherboard, 16Mb of RAM, 540Mb PCI drive, 2Mb PCI graphics card, double-speed CD-ROM, 16-bit soundcard with speakers, 17" monitor, and *Microsoft Office*, all for (steady now) £3,524.

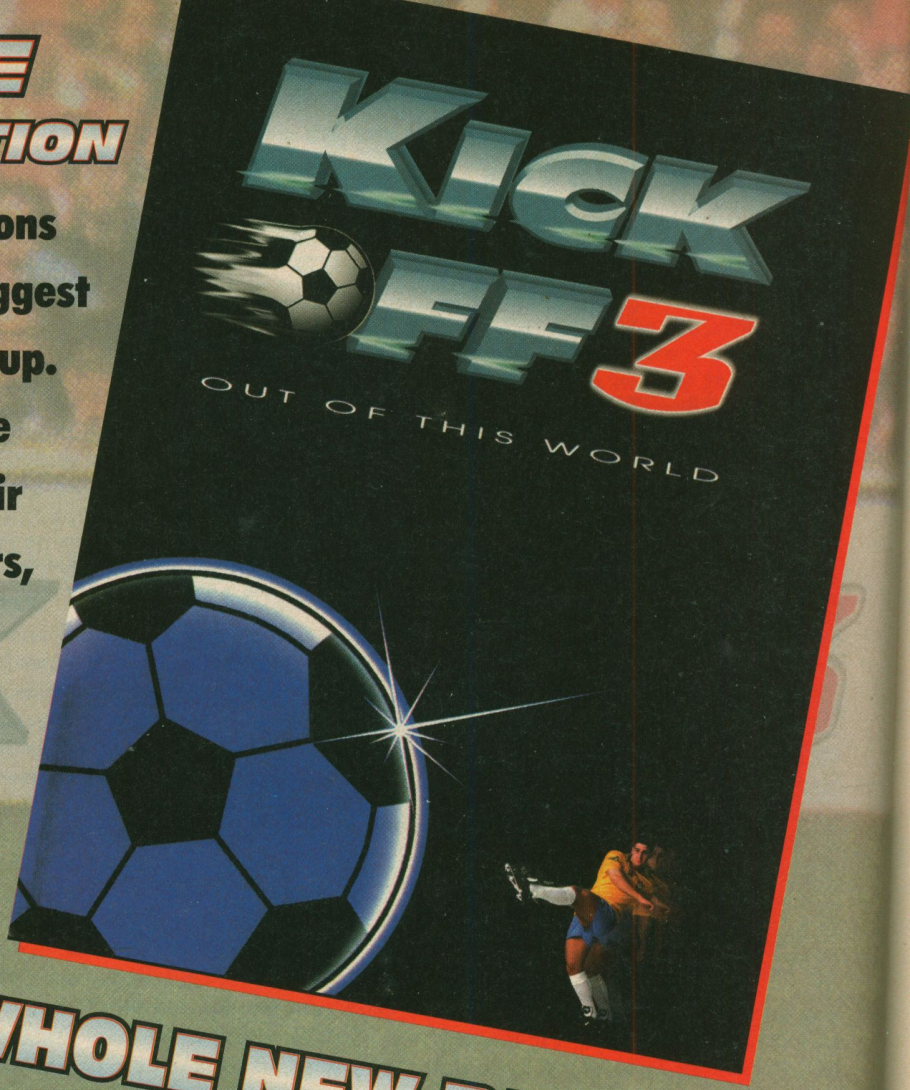
The non-Executive version comes without the soundcard and a measly 15-inch monitor, but costs only (only!) £2,936 of your Earth money. Gateway 2000 Europe can be contacted on ☎ 0800 552000. →



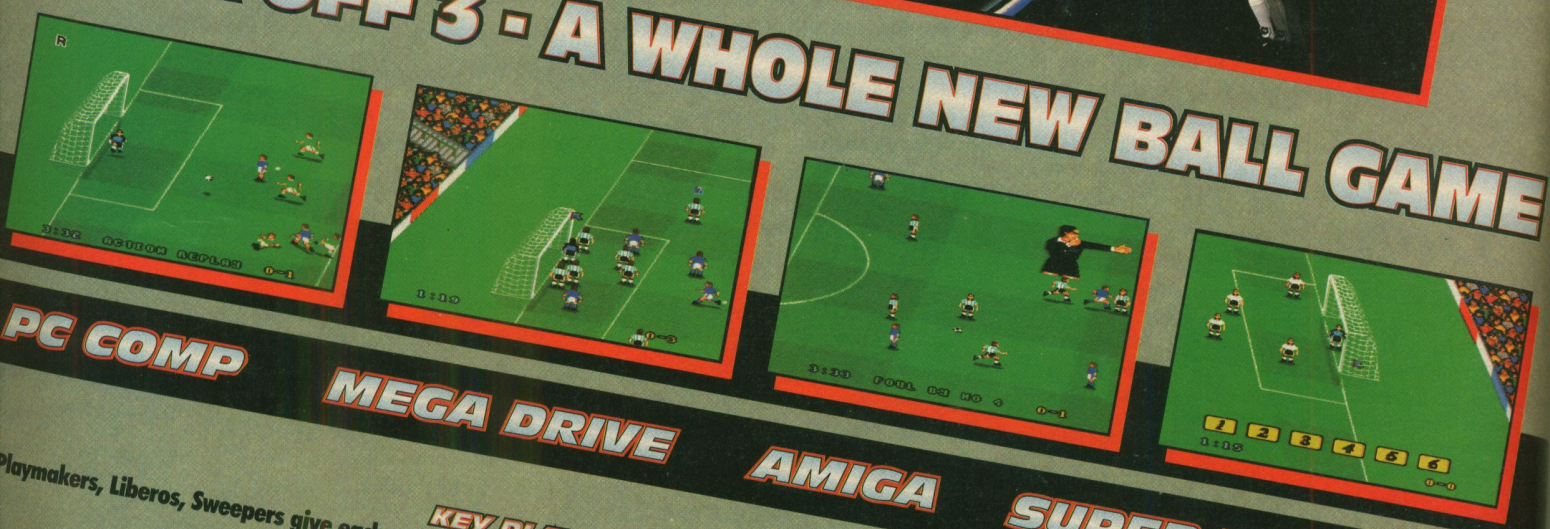
Hugely desirable, and with an understandably porky price tag to match, the 4DX4-100P eats other PCs for breakfast.

EXPLOSIVE SOCCER ACTION

32 Top footballing nations battle for soccer's biggest prize - The World Cup. The stage is set for the worlds best players to display their awesome skills. Flying Dutch wingers, Masterful Brazilian Playmakers, Powerful English targetmen. Every team plays differently and no two men perform in the same way.



KICK OFF 3 - A WHOLE NEW BALL GAME



PC COMP MEGA DRIVE AMIGA SUPER NINTENDO

KEY PLAYERS
Playmakers, Liberos, Sweepers give each nation a style of its own.

TOP LEVEL SOUND
The deafening sound of live soccer into your home.

OVER 2000 FRAMES OF ANIMATION
Fast flowing actions and multi-directional pitch scrolling.

INDIVIDUAL & TEAM PRACTICE
Sharpen up your skills before the big kick off.

TEAM TALK
Switch your tactics and change the game.

INSTANT PLAYABILITY
Control options to suit novice and master alike.

THIRTY DIFFERENT SET PLAYS
Give the most realistic dead ball situations ever.



ANCO

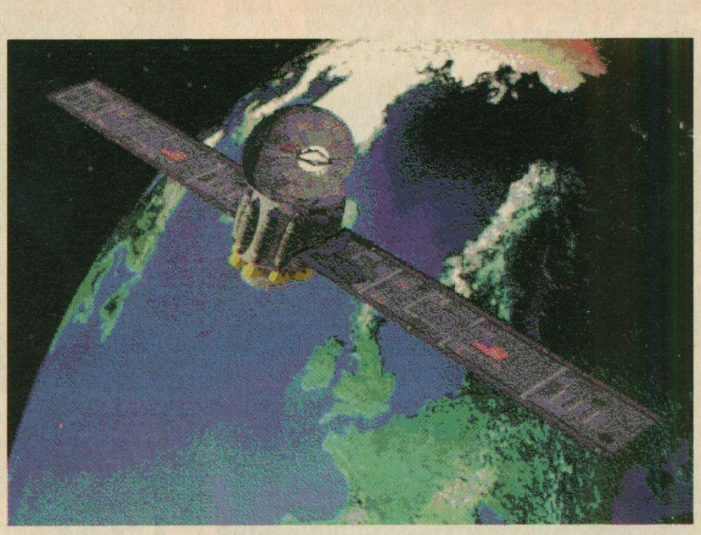
Published by Imagineer (UK) Ltd, Unit 16, Progress Business Centre, Whittle Parkway, Slough, Berks SL1 6DQ. Licensed by Anco Games.

imagineer

AUNTIE GOES ON-LINE

by Brian Walker

The BBC is to launch a BBS offering an Internet gateway with full conferencing facilities. The network will be part of what the Beeb is calling 'The Networking Club', which sounds about as hip as a BBC Micro. The BBS itself, however, will use the BBC's traditional sobriquet of 'Auntie'. Instead of local nodes, Auntie will have what they call 'Points of Presence' (POPS), or local nodes to you and me. Speeds from 2,400bps to 14,400bps will be supported, although initially there will only be seven POPS. These will be at the following locations: East and West London, Cambridge, Edinburgh, Manchester, Birmingham and Bristol. Plans are afoot to increase these as Auntie membership increases, and Belfast is expected to be the next city to POP up (sorry). Membership to Auntie will cost £29.38 (including VAT) with a monthly membership fee of £14.10, and there will be no additional connection charges or on-line time restrictions.



"Good morning, this is the BBC," should soon become, "Yo dudes, let's jack into the cyberspace information superhighway network matrix," when the Beeb's terribly trendy Networking Club goes on-line.

Auntie will feature a graphical front end for users with PCs, Macs and Archimedes. There will also be a special installation program for Windows users. The Internet graphical user interface, Mosaic, will be available for downloading from Internet itself. (If you're confused by all this talk of the Internet, you need issue 32, containing a massive feature on the 'net. Back issues hotline ☎ 0225 822511.)

Apart from the Internet gateway, one of the functions of Auntie will be to support BBC programmes and create an 'interactive dialogue' with programme makers. Transcripts from many BBC programmes, such as computer-related shows *The Net* and *The Big Byte*, will be available for downloading.

However, the prime function of Auntie, according to the BBC, will be educational, with the BBS acting as an advice and information service for educational groups, as well as providing feedback for a range of topical issues. In conjunction with this aim, the BBC is working closely with the National Council for Educational Training in designing and piloting the areas of Auntie that are of particular interest to schools and colleges. In this way the BBS should become an information resource just like a reference book.

Auntie will be operational from early June onwards. For information on how to join, call ☎ 081 576 7799.

SWIRLY BITS

MORE MORPH FROLICS WITH THE release of *PhotoMorph 2 – The Motion Morpher*. The first version was respectably super, this one's got even more: the ability to morph one moving image to another, a feature called Smart Points which helps you place the control points, motion warping, blue screening and chroma-keying. Its asking price is a mere £116.33 from LTS ☎ 0386 792617.

Also on offer is *Morphology 101* on CD, containing the original *PhotoMorph*, the *Matinée* screen-saver, an interactive tutorial on how to give good morph, 300 photos, and 70 samples, all for £45.83.



It's The Woman with the Whirlpool Face. It can only be *PhotoMorph 2*.

Boffins needed, apply within

A CRY FOR HELP ECHOES ACROSS THE country, emanating from RBF Software. The folk there are Amiga developers, but you can forgive them that tiny abberation on the grounds that they're converting their popular music package *OctaMED* to the PC. The problem is that they need someone to do it for them. In particular, they need an extremely competent programmer with a full knowledge of programming using SAS/C. The required person must also be completely familiar with both Amigas and PCs, and will need to have access to each machine.

If you think the job's for you, write to RBF Software at: 169 Dale Valley Road, Southampton SO16 6QX.

CD-ROM charts

The best of the CD-ROM releases

Position/Game (Last month's position in brackets)	Company	Price	Issue	Rating
1 (1) MegaRace	Mindscape	£39.99	PCF 32	74%
2 (2) Day of the Tentacle	US Gold	£45.99	PCF 24	93%
3 (4) Rebel Assault	US Gold	£45.99	PCF 28	79%
4 (NE) Battle Isle 2	Blue Byte	£49.99	PCF 31	88%
5 (6) CD Challenge Pack	Mindscape	£39.99	PCF 32	75%
6 (10) Iron Helix	MicroProse	£39.99	PCF 32	51%
7 (RE) Super Strike Commander	EA	£49.99	PCF 30	92%
8 (NE) Ravenloft	US Gold	£45.99	PCF 33	75%
9 (RE) Dracula Unleashed	Mindscape	£49.99	PCF 27	77%
10 (NE) The 7th Guest/Dune	Telstar	£49.99	Not reviewed	

The UK top 10 CD-ROM games, as compiled by Gallup.

Stop Press

ISAAC ASIMOV might have kicked the bucket, but his peculiar name lives on thanks to *Science Adventure 2* CD-ROM, from Guildsoft. With his last few breaths Ize takes you on another multimedia tour covering the wonders of science in a 3D Virtual Reality museum. Examining the museum pieces takes you further and further into the articles, or you can visit the 150 rooms of the Science Hyper Gallery. One hundred video clips liven it all up. The cost is a mere £70.44 from Guildsoft ☎ 0752 895100.

Then, have a bit of a knees-up with good old *Dr T's Sing-A-Long – Children's Classics*, described as karaoke for kids (aged 3-10). Twenty-six classic children's songs, such as *This Old Man*, *Three Blind Mice* and the unforgettable *A Plague of Lighthouse Keepers* are featured. Little Johnny can sing along with the animated playback while little Joanna tapes the whole thing to embarrass him years later. All good clean fun for £35.19, also from Guildsoft.

SILICA COMPUTERS is expanding wildly in all directions. Not content with selling mucho kit through mail order, it's just opened 20 high-street outlets up and indeed down the country, based mainly in, er, Debenhams (don't snigger). Silica's aim is to offer personal specialist advice, on a smaller scale than is offered by huge chains such as PC World, for the so-called SOHO user and home fanatic alike. Each shop has a range of hardware on display just begging to be fiddled about with, and you're actively encouraged to ask any technical question you desire, no matter how stupid it might sound. (Such as: "What does a gaffer do on a film set?" Or possibly not.) Give Silica a buzz on ☎ 081 309 1111

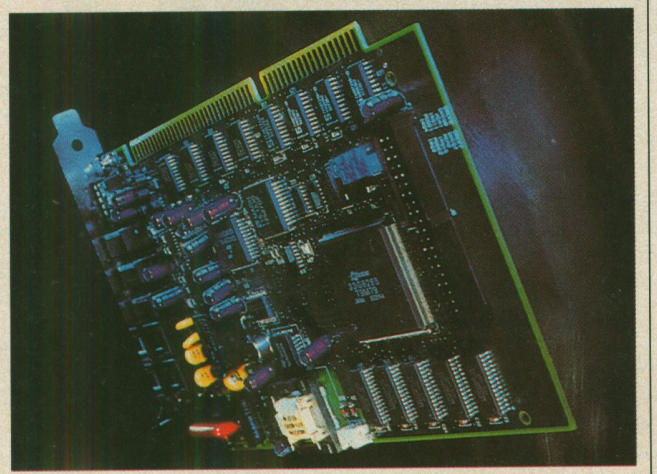
Stop Press

"FOLLOWING HOT on the success of *Arts & Letters Jurassic Art"* goes the press release... er, have we missed something here? Anyway, The Roderick Manhattan Group has launched *Family Tree Maker for Windows*. This doesn't immediately introduce you to thousands of cousins you didn't know you had, it's a charting aid for laying out the tree of said kin in any of 10 styles. One million relatives can be catered for and 15 pages of text entered on each one. *Family Tree Maker for Windows* is £57.58 from The Roderick Manhattan Group ☎ 071 978 1727.

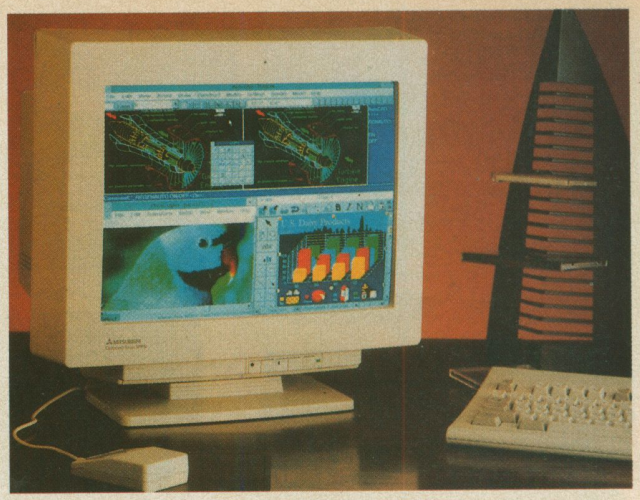
MICROSOFT IS dedicating £250,000 to the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children, kicking off with the sponsorship of the Children's Royal Variety Performance which took place at the end of April. The dosh will be forthcoming until June 1995, bless 'em.

Freaky modem

TO CALL THE ACE UPGRADEABLE MULTIMEDIA MODEM A modem is rather an understatement. As well as sending and receiving data at 14,400 bps, including faxes, it's also an answering machine with voice mail, password protection and multiple mail boxes. And it's a 16-bit, Sound Blaster compatible sound system using wave-table synthesis, incorporating a MIDI and CD-ROM interface. By some miracle of modern technology, the board is upgradeable, via software, to include colour faxing, text-to-speech conversion, 3D sound, word recognition, JPEG video compression. It's just £351.33 from Media Technology Ltd ☎ 081 449 6565. Wow.



Stranger than David Lynch! More useful than *Encarta!* About as visually exciting as grout! Why, it's the ACE Multimedia Modem.



Look at the splendour of the thing! The Mitsubishi DiamondScan 17FS! Even the name reeks of class. Ah, me.

The big screen

IF ANYONE OUT THERE FANCIES BUYING US A NEW monitor, we'll each have a Mitsubishi DiamondScan 17FS 17-incher, please. This droolsome new model is fully software controlled from Windows, oddly enough, with the controlling program altering everything from brightness to geometry to greyscale. (Don't worry, there are standard controls on the front panel too.) The screen has a 0.28mm dot pitch and a flat black square matrix CRT, supporting resolutions of up to 1,280x1,024 without a hint of flicker. Finally, there's built-in power management to dim the screen when it's not in use. Given that the price is a very reasonable £1,295, it shouldn't cost you much more than £5,000 to kit us all out. Mitsubishi can be found on ☎ 0707 276100, or turn to our round-up on page 120 for lots more big screens.

Game charts

The UK top 20 full-price PC games chart

Position/Game (Last month's position in brackets)	Company	Price	Issue	Rating
1 (1) SimCity 2000	Maxis	£39.99	PCF 30	91%
2 (NE) F-14 Fleet Defender	MicroProse	£44.99	PCF 32	72%
3 (RE) Beneath a Steel Sky	VIE	£34.99	PCF 28	87%
4 (3) Premier Manager 2	Gremlin Graphics	£34.99	PCF 29	78%
5 (NE) Pagan: Ultima 8	EA	£49.99	PCF 32	92%
6 (NE) UFO: Enemy Unknown	MicroProse	£44.99	PCF 33	82%
7 (2) Flight Simulator v.5	Microsoft	£39.99	PCF 27	80%
8 (9) Elder Scrolls: Arena	US Gold	£45.99	PCF 32	88%
9 (5) Frontier: Elite 2	Gametek	£39.99	PCF 27	51%
10 (10) TFX	Ocean	£44.99	PCF 28	82%
11 (8) X-Wing	US Gold	£45.99	PCF 20	80%
12 (4) Mortal Kombat	VIE	£29.99	PCF 30	80%
13 (13) Zool	Gremlin Graphics	£34.99	PCF 19	86%
14 (7) Alone in the Dark 2	Infogrames	£49.99	PCF 29	82%
15 (RE) Lemmings 2	Psygnosis	£39.99	PCF 21	86%
16 (NE) Champ Manager Compendium	Domark	£27.99	Not reviewed	
17 (RE) Sensible Soccer 92/93	Renegade	£32.99	PCF 23	80%
18 (NE) Evasive Action	Mindscape	£34.99	PCF 33	66%
19 (RE) Wolfenstein 3D	Mindscape	£19.99	PCF 33	75%
20 (RE) Civilization	MicroProse	£39.99	PCF 4	85%

The UK top 20 PC games, as compiled by Gallup.

Megazoom what?

IF YOU CAN'T WAIT FOR OUR truly stupendous joystick buyers' guide next issue, how about drooling over the new stick from Spectravideo? The PC Optix incorporates optical sensors rather than those old-fashioned potentiometer devices, and it's therefore claimed to be more accurate and longer-lasting than most other joysticks. Megazoom calibration software enables you to fine-tune the game with the controller but, much more interestingly, the stick can be switched between digital and analogue operation at the flick of a switch. All this and much, much more (we expect) for £39.99. Spectravideo ☎ 081 900 0024.

Horsing around

In last month's round up of betting programs, the excellent *Pro Punter* 2+, (81%) was attributed to the wrong company. It's £85 from DGA Software ☎ 061 330 0184.

RSL-CD

MAIL ORDER
CD-ROM SOFTWARE

TEL: 0345 125555

(LOCAL CALL RATE)

RSL-CD, FREEPOST,
P.O. Box 878, Mold,
Clwyd CH7 4YZ.

D-DAY

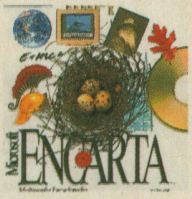
Several titles available covering the D-Day landings of June 6 1944. Please call for details.



FROM **£38.00**

ENCARTA

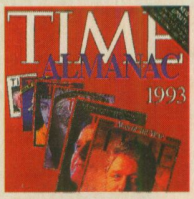
29 volume Encyclopaedia. One of the best CD-ROM titles available. MAC version available soon.



Mac/PC **£68.00**

TIME

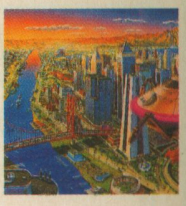
TIME Magazine almanac 1993. 20,000 articles from TIME, charts, video clips – huge amount of infor-mation on one disk.



Mac/PC **£58.00**

SIM CITY

SIM City Enhanced – Best PC game ever?



Mac/PC **£34.00**

ART

Coates Impressionism	£45	M
Great Artists and Paintings	£49	P
Impressionism and its Sources	£59	P
Investigating 20th Century Art	£149	P
Microsoft Art Gallery	£39	M P

CHILDREN

Aesops Fables	£24	M P
Barney Bear Goes to School	£15	P
Barney Bear Goes to Space	£15	P
Beauty and the Beast	£24	P
Betty Boop	£15	P
Bugs Bunny	£15	P
Carmen San Diego	£34	P
Classic Cartoons	£15	P
Mixed Up Mother Goose	£22	P
Planetary Taxi	£34	P
Porky Pig	£15	P
Putt Putt's Fun Pack	£29	P
Putt Putt Goes to the Moon	£29	P
Putt Putt Joins the Parade	£29	P
Sleeping Beauty	£24	P
Tales of Peter Rabbit	£24	M P

NEWSPAPERS

Daily Telegraph & Sunday Telegraph			
1991-1993	per year	£125	P
Times & Sunday Times			
1990-1993	per year	£149	M P
Guardian			
1990-1993	per year	£195	P
Independent			
1989-1993	per year	£199	P

Other newspapers available to order, please call for details.

ENCYCLOPAEDIAS

Compton's Interactive	£78	M P
Grolier	£89	M P
Hutchinson	£49	P

EDUCATION

A-Level Mathematics	£249	P
Exploring Earth Sciences	£195	P
Interactive Periodic Table	£99	P
Investigating Plant Science	£149	P

GEOGRAPHY

CNN Newsroom Global View	£34	P
Global Explorer	£79	P
ITN European Video Atlas	£99	P
KGB/CIA Factbook	£28	M P
Maps and Facts	£34	P
Small Blue Planet	£48	M P
Street Atlas USA	£89	P
World Atlas V4	£24	P

LANGUAGES

Berlitz French	£129	M P
Berlitz German	£129	M P
Berlitz Italian	£129	M P
Berlitz Spanish	£129	M P
Interactive French	£149	P

MUSIC

Beethoven 5th Symphony	£38	P
Beethoven Symphony No.9	£59	M P
Dvorak Symphony No.9	£59	M
A Hard Days Night	£29	M
Introduction to Classical Music	£49	P
Jazz – A Multimedia History	£38	M
Microsoft Beethoven	£37	P
Microsoft Mozart	£37	P
Microsoft Schubert	£37	P
Microsoft Stravinsky	£37	P
Microsoft Musical Instruments	£37	M P
Mozart Dissonant Quartet	£39	M
The Residents – Freak Show	£29	M
Viking Opera Guide	£99	P

REFERENCE

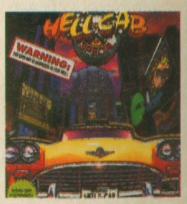
Oxford English Dictionary	£495	M P
Concise Oxford Dictionary	£49	P
Oxford Thesaurus	£49	P
Oxford Dictionary of Quotations and Modern Quotations	£49	P
Macmillan Childrens Dictionary	£22	P

GAMES

7th Guest	£34	M P
Blue Force	£28	P
Commanche	£34	P
Day of the Tentacle	£28	P
Dracula Unleashed	£32	P
Dune	£34	P
F15 Strike Eagle III	£28	P
Gabriel Knight	£34	P
Iron Helix	£26	P
Journeyman Project	£28	M P
Jurassic Park	£26	P
Labyrinth of Time	£28	P
Lands of Lore	£34	P
Lawnmower Man	£38	P
Mad Dog McRee	£28	P
Myst	£28	M P
Rebel Assault	£32	P
Reach for the Skies	£28	P
Return to Zork	£28	P
Sam and Max	£34	P
Secret Weapons of Luftwaffe	£28	P
Sherlock Holmes vol. I	£28	M P
Sherlock Holmes vol. II	£28	M P
Sherlock Holmes vol. III	£28	M P
Strike Commander	£34	P
TFX	£29	P
Tornado	£38	P

HELL CAB

Superb game taking you on a cab ride through history.



Mac/PC **£39.00**

CINEMANIA

Interactive movie guide with more than 19,000 film reviews, music and dialog from a selection of classic films, film clips and more!



Mac/PC **£37.00**

To order, please complete the coupon, or call 0345 125555.
Fax orders: 0352 757487.
Delivery £2 per order UK only. Overseas orders, please call.
Key: M=Apple Mac, P=PC. Please add VAT at 17½% to all prices.

DELIVERY ONLY £2 PER ORDER

PLEASE REMEMBER THIS WHEN COMPARING PRICES WITH OTHER ADVERTISERS

Return Form to: RSL-CD, FREEPOST, P.O. Box 878, Mold, Clwyd CH7 4YZ.
Please send cheque or postal order payable to RSL, or give credit card details below.

QUANTITY	TITLE	PRICE EACH	TOTAL PR

NET TOTAL
DELIVERY
VAT @ 17½%
TOTAL PAYMENT

NAME

ADDRESS

TELEPHONE

CREDIT CARD NO.

EXPIRY DATE / SIGNATURE

PLEASE TICK
VISA ☐ M. CARD ☐ AMEX ☐ DINERS ☐

IMPORTANT: Please state format required MAC ☐ PC ☐

THE BIGGEST COMPETITION EVER

by PC FORMAT, Bullfrog

BULLFROG PRODUCTIONS LTD

THE ENTIRE world was in a state of shock earlier this week when it was announced that Future Publishing's *PC FORMAT* would be giving away more than £5,000-worth of prizes in its July issue. Thousands have already started queuing outside newsagents to ensure they can get a copy of the magazine (which is officially the world's best-selling PC leisure magazine), even though it's not on sale until Thursday 16 June.

The main prize in the competition is an incredible Gateway 2000 P5-90 PC, which is based around Intel's even more incredible 90MHz Pentium processor. The machine would normally set you back a massive £2,936.33. And the runners-up prizes aren't half bad either – four Intel OverDrive chips that can almost double the speed of your 486 (each of which would normally cost more than £400). As if that wasn't enough for you, the prize-giving rollercoaster goes on and on, with further prizes of Bullfrog's excellent futuristic strategy game *Syndicate*, and its outrageously difficult *American Revolt* data disk for the next 10 winners.

The reason for all this giveaway madness is simple – Bullfrog has produced another game, and it promises to be more than a bit special. *Theme Park* gives you the chance to design your own theme parks (funnily enough) and create your own funfair empire. It's all part of Bullfrog supremo Peter Molyneux's ambitious plan to take over the world of computer entertainment by creating the most addictive and thoroughly enjoyable strategy games ever.

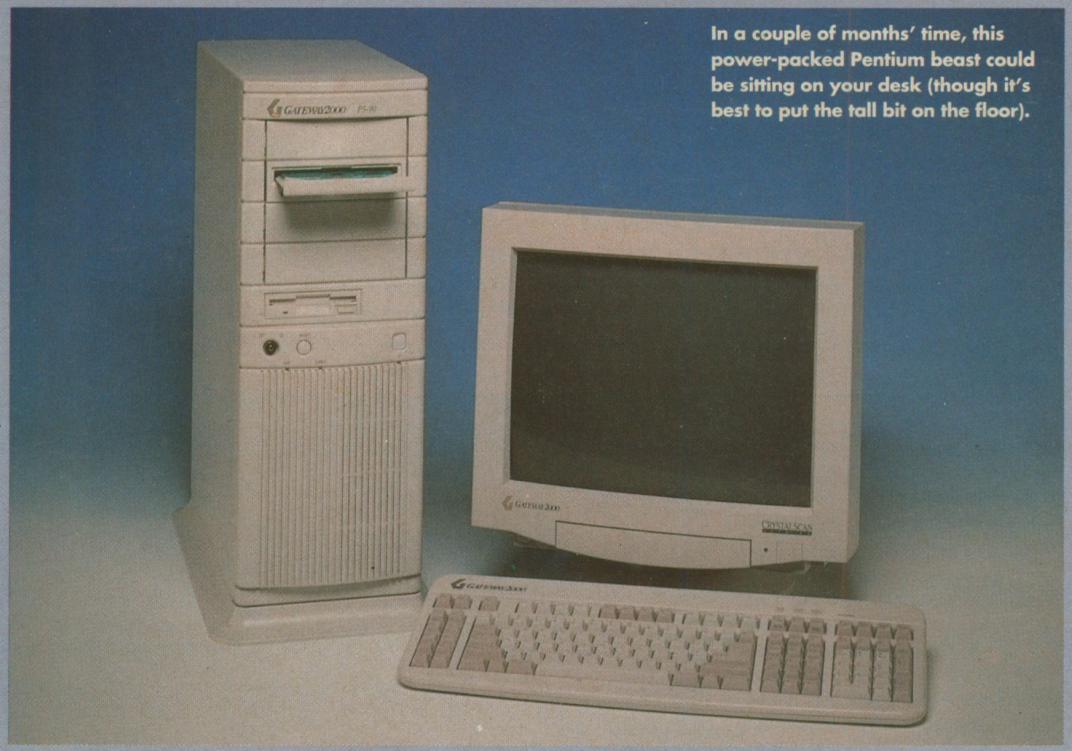
So, if you want to win a Pentium processor-based PC from Bullfrog (and is there anyone who doesn't?), make sure you get your copy of July's *PC FORMAT*, on sale 16 June.

Win one of these

MORE THAN £5,000 OF PRIZES TO BE WON

Just get a load of the machine's specifications – dreamy or what?

- **90MHz Intel Pentium® processor (that's fast with a capital F A S T)**
- **16Mb of RAM (more than enough to render the world in *3D Studio*)**
- **Double-speed CD-ROM drive (just like you'd expect)**
- **540Mb hard disk**
- **2Mb PCI local bus graphics card (the fastest PC graphics ever)**
- **15-inch colour monitor**
- **16-bit soundcard, quality speakers**
- **MS-DOS 6.2, *Windows for Workgroups 3.11* and more software.**



In a couple of months' time, this power-packed Pentium beast could be sitting on your desk (though it's best to put the tall bit on the floor).

Give thanks to Theme Park

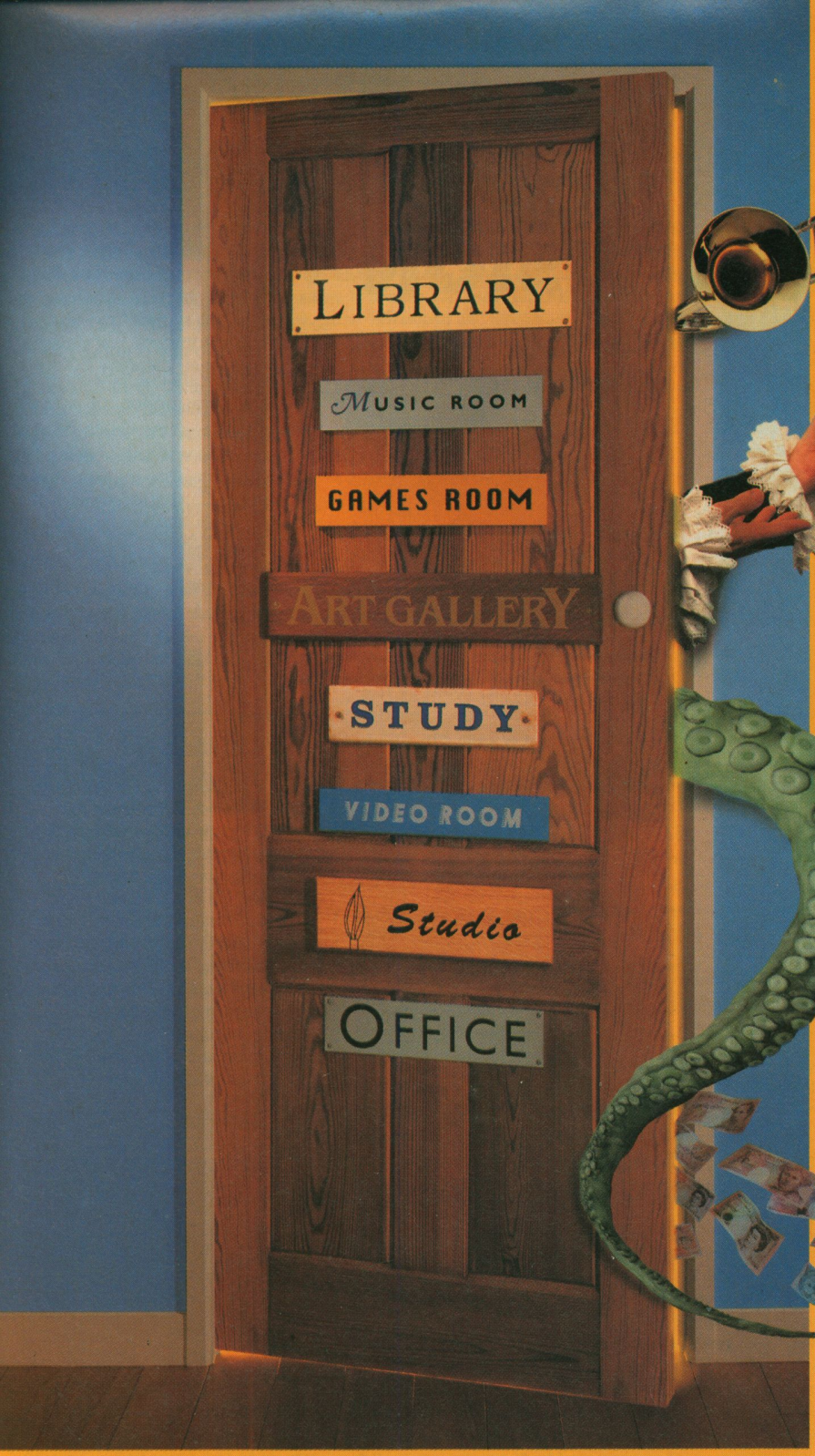
Bullfrog's next strategy game promises to be its best yet, and then some.



Hundreds of people found out that *PC FORMAT* was on sale in the bouncy castle and wanted to make sure they didn't miss their chance to win an awesome PC.



Over at the helter skelter, the ill-informed were left wondering what was going on. The Pentium processor is the best chip ever, and you could win one.



With Microsoft's leading range of Home software, you'll soon be going places – and all at the click of a button.

It'll transform your living room into an art gallery, a games room, or even a golf course. Inside, there's everything to entertain, excite and educate your whole family.

For example, Microsoft® Encarta™ creates a classroom that everyone will want to attend.

It's a CD-based encyclopaedia packed with 28 volumes of information – all dramatically brought to life with a multimedia mix of animation, sound and video.

Just as impressive is Cinemania®, the movie guide. With actual film clips, it allows you to "view as you review."

The entrance fee is remarkably good value. Prices for this ever-increasing range of titles start from only £20, and go up to £100* – making it easy to convert your living room into a much livelier room.

And if you're looking to buy a PC, you'll now find Microsoft Home software pre-loaded onto hardware from the leading manufacturers.

So for a computer that's already brimming with ways to feed the mind and expand the imagination, call the numbers above.

Or for your nearest Microsoft Home software reseller, and a free colour brochure, call us on **(0272) 447742** (during office hours).

COMPAQ 0800-444044
GATEWAY 2000 0800-562000
IBM 0256-841818
Viglen 081-758 7000

Microsoft Home software opens many doors.

Here's two ways to get into it.

Microsoft®
Making it easier

*Including VAT. Prices may vary depending upon your reseller. Microsoft and Cinemania are registered trademarks and Encarta is a trademark of the Microsoft Corporation.

HPCF1

COMING SOON

VIRTUAL VISION

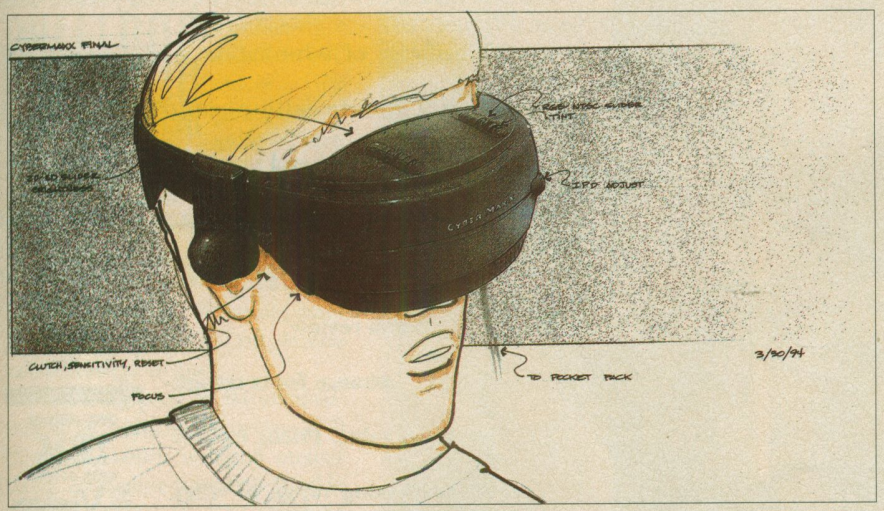
Software houses from around the world assembled at the April European Computer Trade Show to show off their wares to PCF's Richard Longhurst.

THE VIRTUAL REALITY CRAZE IS still very much with us, but at last it looks like affordable VR headsets are becoming more real than virtual. Illinois-based VictorMaxx technologies unveiled a prototype of their CyberMaxx headset, which, Kevin Koy (VictorMaxx president) claims, "puts players literally inside the game itself". Of course, you're not literally in among the digital bits and bytes of the program, you're inside a 360-degree virtual environment with a 70-degree horizontal field of view.

Games have to be programmed specifically to use the headset's features, but once this has been done you'll be able to look around the gameworld just by moving your head. Koy says that the cockpit panning feature in flight sims, for example, could be triggered by headset movements. "In a flight sim, the user can look up and see the clouds and enemy aircraft. By looking down, he can scan an airfield or note ground targets. Tilting his head will enable him to look over the side of his plane."

At only £399, the CyberMaxx headset is cheaper than many of its rivals, but it's still an expensive games accessory, costing more than a good-quality monitor. But Kevin Koy thinks it will become an essential part of the PC gamer's armoury. "No one is going to want to merely watch a screen when they have the option of actually being in the game itself. Virtual reality games will make computer and video games, as we know them now, seem archaic."

CyberMaxx headsets should be on sale in the UK in limited numbers in July, with large volumes appearing in August. They'll be distributed by ICE, who can be contacted on ☎ 0453 756993.



Of course, it'll be a lot more high-tech when it's manufactured, but this artist's impression gives you a good idea of what you can expect for you money.

Technical bit

FOR THOSE OF YOU THAT MIGHT be interested, CyberMaxx has twin 0.7-inch active-matrix LCDs, each with 120,000 pixels and a de-pixellation filter. It has 70-degree field of view, individual eye focus adjustment and adjustable interpupillary distance (a clever way of saying you can move the screens left and right to suit the size of your head). It weighs around 13 ounces (360 grammes) and plugs straight into your VGA graphics card.

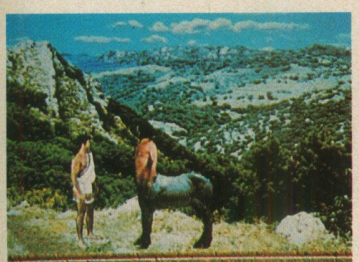
Disney's delights

You've seen the movie, bought the T-shirt, packed the lunch box and ordered the video. Now play the game.

TWO OF THE MAJOR DISNEY characters are about to hit the PC thanks to VIE. The *Aladdin* platform game was a massive hit on the Mega Drive last Christmas, and comes to the PC in October. Its animation was hailed as being the best ever seen on Sega's 16-bit console, and the PC should be able to cope admirably. But the big Disney name this year is *The Lion King*, an animated feature set in the jungle of Africa which follows the life of Simba the lion cub. *The Lion King* game should be out shortly after the film's Christmas release. But before the Disney games are released, you can play with the ever-popular *Cool Spot*, who's already been delighting console owners with his 250 frames of animation and weird level design. *Cool Spot's* due out in June for £30.99. VIE ☎ 081 960 2255.



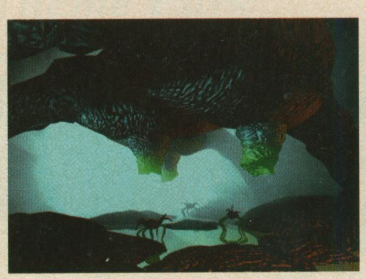
***Aladdin* was a massive hit on the Mega Drive, and now it's on its way to the PC.**



Maxis (☎ 071 490 2333) surprised no one by announcing another *Sim* game – *SimRainforest*, which is being programmed in the UK by Intelligent Games (the others were produced in the US). Grecian graphic adventure *Wrath of the Gods* (above) is due out soon, while *SimRainforest* isn't due out until Christmas this year.



***Rise of the Robots* has experienced more hype (and delays) than the Channel Tunnel, and now won't be out until October because the newly created Time Warner Interactive is publishing the game on just about every conceivable computer platform except the Commodore 64. No price yet. TWI ☎ 0604 790785.**



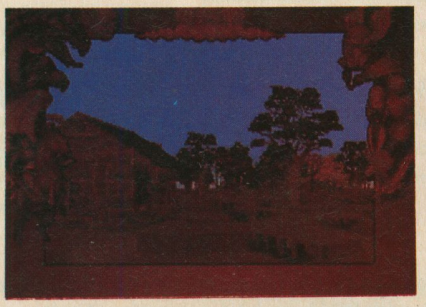
We've been hearing about VIE's *The 11th Hour*, *Creature Shock* and *The Lost Eden* for months, but VIE-owned Westwood Studios is working on *Lands of Lore 2: The Throne of Chaos* (above) and a strategy game called *Commander and Conquer*, follow-up to *Dune 2*. Don't expect to see them before 1995. VIE ☎ 081 960 2255.



Electronic Arts showed its games running on Pentium-powered PCs at an evening presentation with Intel. The most impressive game was Bullfrog's 3D sim *Magic Carpet*, its first crack at a first-person perspective 3D engine, out around Christmas. Bullfrog's next strategy game *Theme Park* is out in June. EA ☎ 0753 549442.

Psygnosis gives birth to triplets shock

PSYGNOSIS IS THRUSTING FORCEFULLY DOWN THE CD FRONT WITH A TRIO of titles to be released by the end of 1994. *Discworld* brings author Terry Pratchett's irreverent fantasy novels to the PC in an adventure game format. Psygnosis is currently in the process of signing up comedy actors to provide the voices and narration. Next up is *Nieblung's Ring*, a 3D adventure game developed by Maelstrom (who created *Midwinter* and *Starlord*). It's the first part of *The Ring Cycle* trilogy, and aims to use the sounds of Wagner's classic opera to powerful effect. Completing the threesome is *Scavenger 4*, a visual feast which, according to Psygnosis, should herald the arrival of the second generation of CD games. Using graphical trickery such as fractal technology and z-buffering, *Scavenger 4* aims to give you far more interaction and raw gameplay than the disappointing *Microcosm* could ever hope to offer. There are no exact release dates or prices yet. Psygnosis ☎ 051 709 5755.

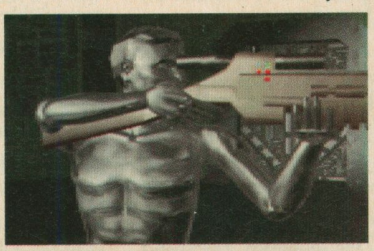


Prepare yourself for bizarre adventurous antics in Psygnosis' version of *Discworld*.

War in cyberspace

FOLLOWING NOT VERY HARD ON THE HEELS ON *THE LAWNMOWER Man* comes, surprise, surprise, another cyber-style arcade adventure, called *Cyberwar*. The second game in *The Lawnmower Man* series (which SCI says is going to be a trilogy) draws heavily on *The Lawnmower Man* film, with you once again taking on the role of the virtual alter-ego of scientist Dr Angelo. Your mission is to battle through the complex structure of a mainframe computer in a desperate bid to destroy the weaponry that Cyberjobe plans to put to deadly use.

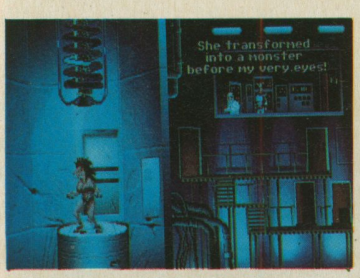
Cyberwar will feature full-colour footage culled directly from the film, as well as a subtle blend of three types of the finest coffee bean. Or should that be gameplay? *The Lawnmower Man* game (reviewed on page 75) was decidedly lacking in the interaction department, but hopefully SCI will have learned from its mistakes, and made sure that *Cyberwar* contains more than just pretty pictures. *Cyberwar* is due out by Christmas. SCI ☎ 071 585 3308. PCF



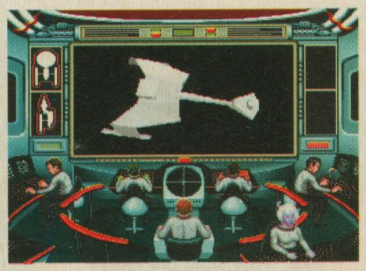
There he is and he's got a gun. Would you just look at the rendering on that?



Just when you thought it might be safe to go back in the virtual water, Cyberjobe returns. And he's annoyed.



Renegade's taking a break from all-out action games by publishing Binary Illusions' *Flight of the Amazon Queen*. This wide-ranging fun-filled graphic adventure is much in the style of LucasArts' *Indiana Jones and the Fate of Atlantis*. No price yet, but the game's due out in November. Renegade ☎ 071 481 9214.



***Star Trek* fans should look out for the next Trekkie game from Interplay. *Starfleet Academy* is a SVGA flight sim (but this screenshot's in VGA) which enables you to fly three different Starfleet ships on a variety of missions against the usual Klingons. Expect a Christmas release, no price yet. Interplay ☎ 0865 390029.**

ECU european computer user

PHONE 0480 498889
Fax: 0480 496379
Open 5 days a week 9am - 7pm

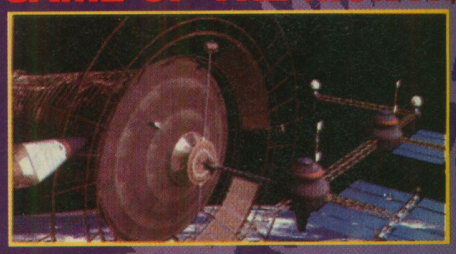
CD-ROM TOP TITLES

BENEATH A STEEL SKY	30.99
•BLOODNET	27.99
DARKSEED	26.99
DAY OF THE TENTACLE	27.99
DRAGONSPHERE	26.99
ELITE 2 - FRONTIER	18.99
GABRIEL KNIGHT - SINS OF THE FATHER	27.99
LANDS OF LORE	27.99
LAWNMOWER MAN	36.99
LEISURE SUIT LARRY 1 - 5	32.99
MEGARACE	24.99
MICROCOSM	35.99
+REBEL ASSAULT	29.99
+RETURN TO ZORK	26.99
•RISE OF THE ROBOTS	44.99
SAM & MAX HIT THE ROAD	27.99
SHADOWCASTER	38.99
•SIM CITY	29.99
STAR TREK 25TH	29.99
STRIKE COMMANDER	32.99
ULTIMA VIII - PAGEN	37.99

DIRECT MARKETING ASSOCIATION
MEMBER OF DIRECT MARKETING ASSOCIATION

•ACES OF THE DEEP	29.99
AMBERMOON	26.99
•ARMOURED FIST	22.99
ARCADE POOL	13.99
A-TRAIN	13.99
AWARD WINNERS 2(SENSIBLE SOCCER, JIMMY WHITE, ELITE, ZOOL)	23.99
•BATTLEDROME - METAL TECH	26.99
BENEATH A STEEL SKY	23.9
BREACH 3	26.99
CADAVER/PAY OFF DOUBLE PACK	9.99
CANNON FODDER	20.99
CARRIERS AT WAR 2	29.99
CHAMPIONSHIP MANAGER ITALIA 94	16.99
CIVILIZATION (WINDOWS)	28.99
•CYBERSPACE	25.99
•DAEMONSGATE	19.99
•DARK LEGIONS	CALL
DAY OF THE TENTACLE	26.99
•D-DAY	CALL
•DELTA V	CALL
•DIGGERS	22.99
•DREAMWEB	26.99
DUNE 2	22.99
•DUNGEON MASTER 2	CALL

GAME OF THE MONTH



OUTPOST - £26.99

PC TITLES

EUROPEAN CHAMPIONS	19.99
EVOLUTION-LOST IN TIME	CALL
EVASIVE ACTION	22.99
F1	19.99
F14 - FLEET DEFENDER	26.99
F18 - HORNET (FALCON 3.0)	CALL
FIELDS OF GLORY	27.99
FLIGHT SIM 5	29.99
FLIGHT SIM 5 - WASHINGTON	24.99
FRONTIER - ELITE 2	21.99
GABRIEL KNIGHT	26.99
GENESIA	23.99
GOBLIINS 3	27.99
• GRAHAM GOOCHS CRICKET	21.99
GREAT NAVAL BATTLES 2	26.99
• HARPOON 2	CALL
HEIMDALL 2	26.99
HIRED GUNS	27.99
INDY CAR RACING	26.99
• INFERNO	CALL
JIMMY WHITE'S SNOOKER	9.99
KINGMAKER	24.99
KINGS QUEST 6	27.99
LANDS OF LORE	22.99
LEISURE SUIT LARRY 6	26.99
LINKS PRO 386	28.99
LINKS PRO 386 COURSE'S	15.99
LINKS - CASTLE PINE	15.99
• LINKS KAPALUA	16.99
• LORDS OF MIDNIGHT	CALL
LOST IN TIME	28.99
LURE OF THE TEMPTRESS	9.99
• MANCHESTER UNITED - PREMIER LEAGUE	17.99
MASTER OF ORION	26.99
MICRO MACHINES	19.99
MIGHT & MAGIC 5 - XEEN	29.99
MONKEY ISLAND	12.99
MONKEY ISLAND 2	24.50
• NODDY 2 (WINDOWS)	22.99
NOMAD	19.99
• OUTPOST	29.99
• PACIFIC AIR WAR - 1942	28.99
• PACIFIC STRIKE	29.99
PERFECT GENERAL 2	28.99
PINBALL DREAMS	21.99
PINBALL DREAMS 2	13.99
POLICE QUEST IV	25.99
PRIVATEER - RIGHTEOUS FIRE	14.99
QUEST FOR GLORY IV	25.99
RAILROAD TYCOON	12.99
RALLY	23.99
RETURN TO ZORK	26.99
• REUNION	CALL
SABRE TEAM	18.99
SAM & MAX HIT THE ROAD	26.99
SID & ALS INCREDIBLE TOONS	26.99
SIM CITY CLASSIC	11.99
SIM CITY 2000	26.99
SIM CITY 2000 SCENARIO DISK VOL 1	CALL
SIM CITY DELUXE	17.99
SIMON THE SORCERER	25.99
SPACE HULK	27.99
• SPACE MOUNTAIN	19.99
SSN-21 SEAWOLF	29.99
• STARDUST	16.99
STAR TREK - JUDGEMENT RITES	29.99
STREETFIGHTER 2	9.99
• SUPER LEAGUE MANANGER	19.99
SYNDICATE	26.99
SYNDICATE - AMERICAN REVOLT	14.99
• THE SETTLERS	26.99
• THEME PARK	29.99
TORNADO	26.99
TORNADO - DESERT STORM MISSION	17.99
TOTAL CARNAGE	18.99
UFO ENEMY UNKNOWN	26.99
ULTIMA VIII - PAGAN	32.99
ULTIMATE PINBALL QUEST	18.99
ULTIMA VIII - SPEECH PACK	14.99
ULTIMA UNDERWORLD 2	24.99
ULTIMA VI - THE FALSE PROPHET	10.99
UMS COMPILATION	28.99
UNNECESSARY ROUGHNESS	26.99
• VICTORY AT SEA	CALL
WARLORDS 2	27.99
• WEREWOLF KA-50	25.99
WING COMMANDER	10.99

20 GREAT SPECIAL OFFERS

+ALONE IN THE DARK	12.99
+ALONE IN THE DARK 2	23.99
+BRUTAL SPORTS FOOTBALL	11.99
+CAESAR DE-LUXE	19.99
+COMMANCHE - MAXIMUM OVERKILL	17.99
+CYBERRACE	24.99
+EXCELLENT GAMES	21.99
+GUNSHIP 2000	16.99
+FLASHBACK	14.99
+HAND OF FATE	21.99
+INNOCENT UNTIL CAUGHT	21.99
+MORTAL KOMBAT	15.99
+NFL FOOTBALL	16.99
+PINBALL FANTASIES	22.99
+PREMIER MANAGER 2	15.99
+STARLORD	21.99
+STAR TREK - JUDGEMENT RITES	27.99
+TFX	23.99
+WAR IN THE GULF	9.99
+X-WING MISSION DISKS	12.99

All items are subject to availability. Prices can be subject to change. E&OE.
Post and packing: UK = 75p per item 2nd Class; £1.50 per item 1st Class; £2.00 per item 1st Class Recorded.
E.E.C. = £3.00 per item; Non-E.E.C. = £6.00 per item;
Swift Air E.E.C. = £5.75 per item; Swift Air Non E.E.C. = £9.00 per item
Next Day Courier = £5.00 per consignment (Up to 5kg. Deliveries Mon-Fri Only)
Titles marked with a • may not be released at time of going to press. Please telephone for availability and a full copy of our terms and conditions.
Titles marked with a + are available at the price shown while stocks last.

VISA MasterCard

OPEN ALL DAY SATURDAY

NAME
ADDRESS
POSTCODE PHONE
ITEM PRICE
ITEM PRICE
ITEM PRICE
POSTAGE
TOTAL
(Please indicate if you require Disk or CD-ROM)
Visa/Mastercard/Switch Number:
Switch issue No: Card Expiry Date:
SIGNATURE:

Make cheques payable to: European Computer User & send to : Units A2/A3 Edison Rd, St Ives, Huntingdon, CAMBS PE17 4LF

PC FORMAT JUNE 94

Tomorrow's world

Windows 4 draws ever closer and Microsoft, in all its wisdom, has finally decided to talk about it. Plus surgery by virtuality, and Nöel Murphy is let loose. Ed Ricketts presides.

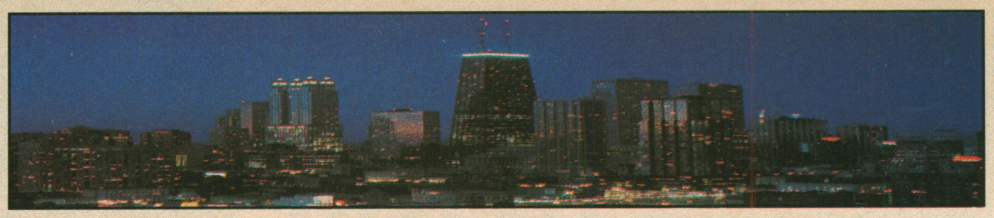


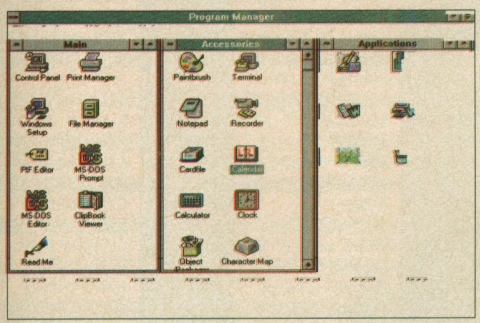
IMAGE BANK

WINDY CITY

Next month we'll be looking at a beta version of Chicago. For now, here's the low-down...

Mere mortal home users like you and me have been stuck with Windows 3.1 for so long now it seems impossible to think of using a different version. Windows for Workgroups 3.11 didn't change anything unless you were part of a network and Windows NT was simply overkill for home use.

Windows 4, or Chicago as it's currently known, will certainly change all that. It's the biggest update to the operating system since Windows 3.0 arrived. So what exactly is Chicago likely to offer? Here are a few ideas...



Windows 3.1's interface as it looks today. Hardly *Blade Runner*, but wait till you see Chicago.

Overview

Chicago is a 32-bit bootable operating system. In other words, it completely replaces MS-DOS and its memory restrictions. It works in native protected mode (where memory is treated as one big lump), and its internal operations are almost entirely in 32-bit mode. This is unlike Windows 3.1 which, in order to be compatible with 286 machines, works with 16-bit calculations. Simplistically speaking, this means Chicago has the potential to be twice as fast. For even more speed, it has the capability to multitask (run applications simultaneously) and multithread (where an application manages multiple independent tasks simultaneously). Imagine two programs, both running concurrently and both running different tasks within themselves. This is true multitasking, as opposed to today's Windows, which 'timesites', or switches between different applications so quickly that it appears to be running them simultaneously.

Chicago's 32-bit file system is called VFAT (Virtual File Allocation Table), a faster, protected-mode version of the existing FAT system. It's compatible with FAT, so you won't need to reformat your drive to install Chicago. VFAT also offers long filenames (up to 255 characters), like a Mac. And finally, Chicago can be uninstalled at any time, so you can easily lance it from your hard drive without leaving annoyingly isolated files all over the place.

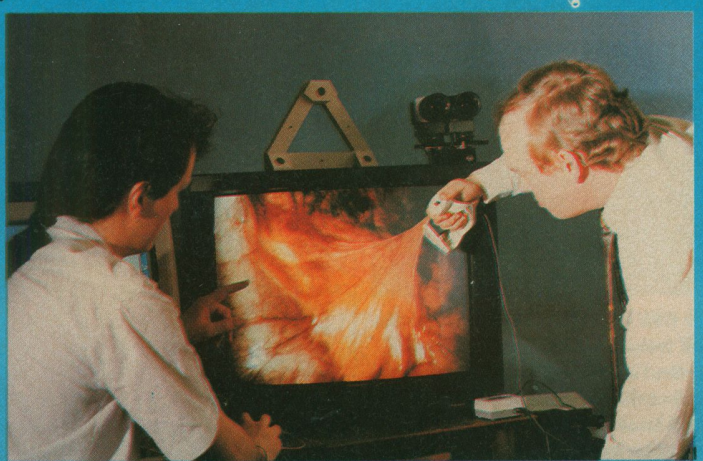
While these are radical changes, Microsoft believes most existing Windows applications and drivers should still be compatible with Chicago, running at an equivalent if not faster speed. If all goes well, they should run fine on a 386 with only 4Mb. To reap the full power of the system, applications need to be written to take advantage of the 32-bit environment. Applications designed for

It's not real pain...

"HELLO, MR JONES. YOU'RE ALL PREPPED FOR THEATRE NOW. DON'T worry, I've been fully trained with the Virtual Reality Minimally Invasive Therapy Simulator." Not the most comforting of words to hear before undergoing an operation, but chances are they'll become ever more common.

Minimally Invasive Therapy (MIT) – keyhole surgery – where the entire operation is carried out by 'remote control' using instruments – is an increasingly popular method of carrying out minor surgery. Because accuracy is paramount during these ops, each one is monitored by the surgical team using a 24-inch screen via a miniature camera inside the patient. The problems arise with using the equipment, because the controls are actually reversed, so if the surgeon moves his hand one way, the instrument moves in the opposite direction. In addition the operation can only be viewed in 2D, owing to the flat screen of the monitor.

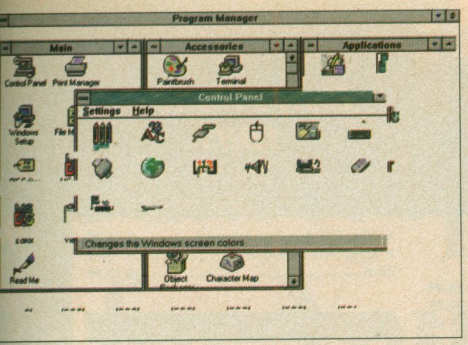
At the moment MIT students are trained by, er, remotely peeling chicken legs or grapes placed in small boxes.



Videodrome, anyone? Prof Bob Stone (right) dabbles with some virtual colon, aided by Andy Connell of Advanced Robotic Research Limited.

While this improves their familiarity with the equipment, a chicken leg is a far cry from a human body, in case you hadn't noticed. That's why the Department of Health, in conjunction with The North of England Wolfson Centre, has just set up a research centre at Manchester Royal Infirmary to produce a Virtual Reality MIT simulator. The project is led by Professor Bob Stone, who explained: "Using the simulator, students will see virtual organs on the monitor and their actual instruments will move inside the virtual body just as they would in real life. There will be sensory feedback to the instruments in real time. It will even be possible to program 'difficulty levels' by covering organs in fat or scar tissue, thus placing the surgeon in an emergency situation without endangering a patient. This application is believed to be the first actual use of VR in British surgical practice."

So if you hear excited medical students boasting that they've reached level four of the MIT VR simulator, don't be alarmed, it's for your own good. It certainly makes the gameplay in *Microcosm* look a bit poor.



To access something even vaguely technical in Windows, you need the irksome Control Panel.

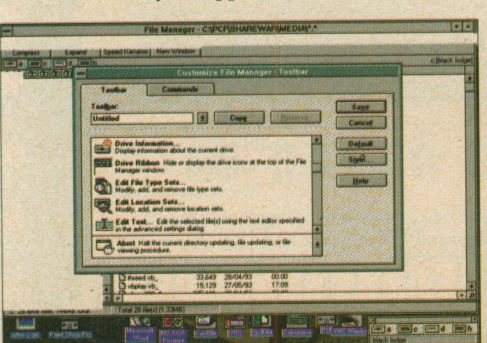
Windows NT already do this, so they'll be immediately compatible. Conversions of popular packages are expected to appear in the 90 days after Chicago's release, and Microsoft is actively supporting major publishers to ease this transition, or so it says.

Desktop

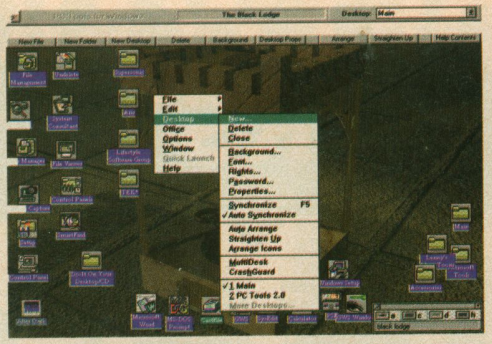
The desktop, which is the primary interface to Chicago, is currently still the furthest from completion. Microsoft is constantly changing it according to the feedback it receives from alpha testers, but one thing's for certain, it's nothing like Windows as we know it. Gone are the separate Program Manager, File Manager and Control Panel modules. They're now all integrated into one Mac-like desktop (not that Microsoft would ever admit this). Documents, rather than applications, have precedence, while applications are still there but you don't interface with them directly. Instead, you deal with objects (for example, a word processing document) and folders (subdirectories). The object is manipulated by basic commands, such as Open, Copy and Move, and, for example when you open such an object, the WP automatically runs. Windows already has this capability, but it'll be emphasised more heavily in Chicago. In fact Chicago will be more like *PC Tools for Windows* in many respects.

An ever-present toolbar along the bottom of the screen functions in a similar way to Windows' menus. From here you can switch between applications, run frequently-accessed programs, get help and exit the system. A 'Find' command can search through disk files for embedded words and phrases, and can potentially do much more. More and more applications are being written to take advantage of Object Linking and Embedding v.2, and a document created with one of these programs can be interrogated by the 'Find' command to give detailed information about its contents, including a full display in its native format.

There's no File Manager and no need to create icons for each of your applications. Instead, folders



***PC Tools for Windows* already offers you the capability to customise most of its user interface.**



Chicago's desktop is likely to look much more like *PC Tools for Windows'*, as seen in action here.

representing your drives appear on the desktop and can be opened like any other, their contents parallelling the contents of your drives. They can be dragged on to the desktop for easy access.

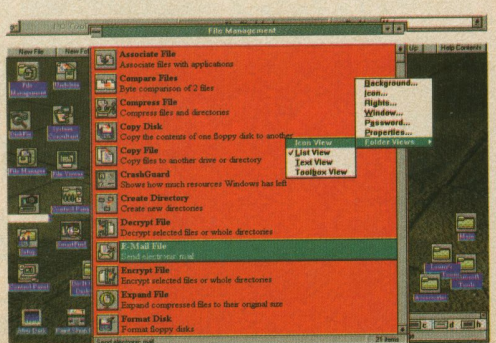
Plug and Play

Normally, when you install a new expansion board, it's up to you to change its jumpers appropriately so the device uses only free IRQ and DMA settings. It's a real pain just finding out what settings your existing cards are using, let alone how to configure the new ones, and all sorts of interrupt conflicts can occur.

With Plug and Play, none of this happens. The operating system itself looks at your setup, decides which resources are free, allocates them to the appropriate card, and loads the correct drivers, all without you needing to touch a jumper or DIP switch. Except, of course, Plug and Play doesn't exist yet, at least not in a popular form. The PCI motherboard design, fast becoming a rival to local bus, is already capable of recognising certain types of graphic cards and hard drives, but it's far from being a plug and play design.

Three components are needed for such a system: a compatible BIOS, compatible expansion cards and a compatible operating system. Chicago is an example of the latter, or at least, Microsoft is desperately working to make it compatible, in conjunction with companies like Intel, Compaq and Phoenix. Even if Chicago does support Plug and Play, it won't be any good on its own. You'll need to upgrade your BIOS and replace existing cards with updated versions, and it's going to take a while for these to be designed, let alone released. In the meantime we'll have to carry on fighting IRQ conflicts with a stiff upper lip.

This is just a preview of what Chicago is expected to offer, based on an alpha version. Microsoft is currently inviting journalists over to its Redmond 'campus' to view the beta-tests of Chicago, including our own Ed Ricketts, and of course we'll be keeping you informed. PCF



***PCTW* again. Right-clicking an object brings up its action menu. Chicago should have this too.**

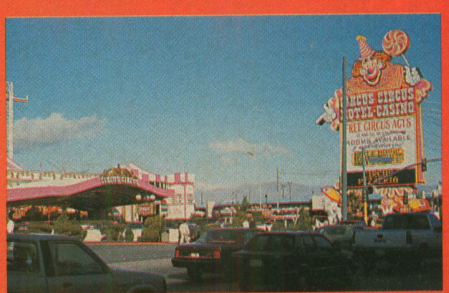
WIRED WORLD

Welcome to *PC FORMAT's* glimpse into the distant future of entertainment, info-tainment, digital super highways, InfoBahns, cyberpunk, cypherpunk and the rest. Nöel Murphy leads the way.

THE IBM PC WAS INTRODUCED TO THE world at the Waldorf Astoria in New York, nearly 13 years ago. Back then you had a single 5.25-inch drive (no hard disk), 16K of RAM and the base unit – total cost: $1,565. And now look at base setups: 486 with 8Mb of RAM, 220Mb hard disk, stereo sound output, CD-ROM drive, and a graphical user interface called Windows. But quantum leaps of this nature are no longer taking 13 years to happen in the PC world. We'll cover the latest changes in this column as they happen.

GO TO DEF CON II

Fancy a trip to sunny Las Vegas? Forget the Summer CES (Consumer Electronics Show) in Chicago – Def Con II is where you want to be, if you've even the slightest interest in 'the Net' (and who hasn't, after last month's feature?). The conference runs July 22-24 at the Sahara Hotel, and speakers include: Philip Zimmerman, author of PGP (Pretty Good Privacy – a cryptography system for people everywhere); Ludwig, author of *The Little Black Book of Computer Viruses*; Padgett Peterson, computer enthusiast and anti-virus programmer; Lloyd Blankenship (otherwise



It all comes full circle. Go to Chicago and you'll end up at the dull CES instead of Def Con II.

known as The Mentor); Gail Thackery, of Operation Sun Devil (otherwise known as the Hacker Crackdown) fame; and legendary hacker Erik Bloodaxe, who edits the equally legendary *Phrack* magazine. It's $15 in advance, $30 on the door, and, of course, we'll be reporting back on this seminal computing event.

NIPPY 3D AHOY

Argonaut has finally realised that the PC is the stable platform and joined Cirrus Logic to build a 'standard' 3D graphics co-processor board. This wazzy new board will accelerate Gouraud shading, texture mapping, transparency and error diffusion in both scan-line and z-buffer rendering. All this means some mean, real-time 3D rendering for the PC and, hopefully, some cool looking new games.

We are not responsible for and do not necessarily agree with Nöel Murphy's actions, thoughts or opinions. In fact it's unlikely anyone is or does, but we like him anyway.

A division of **SOFTWARE PLUS**, Britain's largest independent specialist retailer of computer games.

SOFTWARE FIRST

Established 1981

PC

1942 *	CALL
3D Pool	£ 9.99
4D Sports Boxing	£ 9.99
688 Attack Sub	£ 12.99
A Train	£ 12.99
Across the Rhine *	CALL
Aces over Europe	£ 29.99
Alien Breed	£ 19.99
Alone in the Dark	£ 17.99
Alone in the Dark 2	£ 29.99
Amazon Queen *	CALL
Another World	£ 11.99
Arcade Pool *	CALL
Armour Geddon	£ 12.99
Award Winners Gold Edition	£ 22.99
Battledrome - Metal Tech *	CALL
Beneath a Steel Sky	£ 25.99
Birds of Prey	£ 11.99
Bloodnet *	CALL
Body Blows	£ 19.99
Brutal Sports Football	£ 16.99
Campaign 2	£ 19.99
Cannon Fodder *	£ 23.99
Captive	£ 9.99
Captive 2 *	CALL
Carriers at War 2	£ 29.99
Castles	£ 14.99
Castles Data Disk	£ 7.99
Championship Manager 93	£ 12.99
Championship Manager 94 DD	£ 7.99
Championship Manager Italia	£ 19.99
Chaos Engine *	CALL
Chessmaster 3000 Windows	£ 16.99
Chessmaster 4000 Windows	£ 22.99
Civilization	£ 26.99
Colonels Bequest	£ 14.99
Colossus Chess X	£ 6.99
Colossus Compliation	£ 14.99
Comanche Mission Over the Edge	£ 16.99
Cruise for a Corpse	£ 11.99
D Generation	£ 12.99
Daughter of the Serpents	£ 14.99
David Leadbetters Golf	£ 13.99
Day of the Tentacle	£ 28.99
Delta 5 *	£ 28.99
Deluxe Strip Poker	£ 7.99
Deluxe Trivial Pursuit	£ 14.99
Desert Strike *	CALL
Dune 2	£ 23.99
Elder Scrolls Arena	£ 29.99
European Champions *	CALL
Evasive Action	£ 22.99
Eye of the Beholder	£ 13.99
F1	£ 19.99
F14 Fleet Defender	£ 28.99
F29	£ 11.99
Fantastic Dizzy *	CALL
Fantasy Empires	£ 23.99
Fantasy World Dizzy	£ 7.99
Fields of Glory	£ 29.99
Flashback	£ 25.99
Frontier Elite 2	£ 25.99
Fury of the Furries	£ 14.99
Gabriel Knight	£ 26.99
Gamepak 3	£ 19.99
Gateway	£ 12.99
Gateway 2 *	CALL
Global Effect	£ 14.99
Greatest	£ 31.99
Hand of Fate	£ 31.99
Heimdall 2 *	CALL
Hero Quest Plus Data Disk	£ 9.99
Hired Guns	£ 26.99
Hoyle Book of Games Vol 1	£ 12.99
Hoyle Book of Games Vol 2	£ 12.99
In Extremis	£ 24.99
Inca 2 *	CALL
Indiana Jones Atlantis Adv	£ 24.99
Indy Car Racing	£ 28.99
Indy Last Crusade Graphic	£ 14.99
International Soccer	£ 14.99
Ishar Legend of the Fortress	£ 9.99
Ishar 2	12.99
Ishar 3 *	CALL
James Pond 2 Robocod	£ 16.99
Jigsaw Pinups	£ 9.99
Jungle Strike *	CALL
Kids Rule OK	£ 14.99
Kingmaker	£ 24.99
Knights of the Sky	£ 12.99
Legends of Valour	£ 14.99
Leisure Suit Larry 1	£ 11.99
Leisure Suit Larry 2	£ 11.99

THIS MONTH'S SPECIAL OFFERS

CYBERRACE	£19.99
HARDBALL 3	£14.99
KINGS QUEST 5	£19.99
MAVIS BEACON TEACHES TYPING	£12.99
STAR WARS CHESS	£29.99

Leisure Suit Larry 6	£ 26.99
Lemmings	£ 14.99
Lemmings/Sim City Dbl Pack	£ 20.99
Lemmings 2 the Tribes	£ 19.99
Links 386	£ 29.99
Links Belfry Course	£ 16.99
Links Castle Pines	£ 16.99
Links Challenge	£ 12.99
Links Mauna Key	£ 16.99
Links Pebble Beach	£ 16.99
Litil Divil	£ 26.99
Lombard RAC Rally	£ 9.99
Lotus Ultimate Challenge	£ 14.99
Lure of the Temptress	£ 11.99
Manchester United Premier League *	CALL
Maniac Mansion	£ 10.99
Master of Orion	£ 29.99
Micro Machines *	£ 19.99
Microprose Grand Prix	£ 42.99
Microsoft Flight Sim 5	£ 28.99
Microsoft New York	£ 15.99
Microsoft Paris	£ 13.99
Mig 29M Super Fulcrum	£ 11.99
Monkey Island 2	£ 23.99
MoonstoKings Qne	£ 9.99
Mortal kombat	£ 20.99
NFL Football	£ 25.99
Overdrive *	CALL
Pagan Ultima 8	£ 32.99
Pagan Ultima 8 Speech Pack	£ 13.99
Pinball Fantasies	£ 25.99
Pinball Magic	£ 7.99
Pirates	£ 12.99
Pirates Gold	£ 25.99
Police Quest 1	£ 12.99
Police Quest 2	£ 14.99
Powergame 2	£ 24.99
Powermonger	£ 11.99
Premier Manager	£ 12.99
Premier Manager 2	£ 22.99
Prince of Persia	£ 10.99
Privateer	£ 34.99
Privateer Righteous Fire	£ 15.99
Pro Tennis Tour 2	£ 12.99
Push Over	£ 10.99
Quest For Glory 1	£ 13.99
Ragnarok	£ 19.99
Raiden *	CALL
Rally	£ 22.99
Red Hell *	CALL
Return to Zork	£ 30.99
Reunion *	CALL
Robinsons Requiem *	CALL
Robocop 3	£ 12.99
Rome AD92	£ 16.99
Sam & Max Hit the Road	£ 28.99
Scrabble	£ 20.99
Secret of Monkey Island	£ 12.99
Sensible Soccer 92/93	£ 21.99
Shuttle	£ 14.99
Silent Service 2	£ 12.99
Silverball	£ 19.99
Sim City 2000	£ 26.99
Sim City Classic	£ 11.99
Sim City Deluxe	£ 22.99
Sim Earth	£ 13.99
Sim Life	£ 9.99
Space Quest 2	£ 12.99
Spear of Destiny	£ 11.99
Speedball 2	£ 11.99
SSN21 Seawolf	£ 29.99
Star Trek	£ 23.99
Star Trek 2 Judgement Rites	£ 28.99
Star Trek Next Generation *	CALL
Starlord	£ 29.99
Strategy Masters	£ 12.99
Street Fighter 2	£ 19.99
Strike 2	£ 14.99
Strike Commander	£ 32.99
Strike Squad	£ 27.99
Striker	£ 19.99
Subwar 2050	£ 29.99
Super All Stars Collection (Codemasters) *	CALL
Super Space Invaders	£ 8.99
Syndicate	£ 29.99
Syndicate Data Disk	£ 13.99
Task Force 1942	£ 24.99
Termninator Rampage	£ 26.99
TFX	£ 29.99
Thunderhawk	£ 9.99
Transarctica	£ 9.99
Trolls	£ 17.99
UFO ...	£ 28.99
Ultima 6	£ 12.99
Unnecessary Roughness	£ 26.99
Utopia	£ 11.99
Werewolf KA-50 *	£ 25.99
Wing Commander	£ 11.99
Winter Challenge	£ 12.99
Winter Gold	£ 12.99
Winter Olympics	£ 25.99
Wizard *	CALL
Wizkidd	£ 12.99
Wolfenstein 3D	£ 13.99
World Class Leaderboard Series	£ 10.99
World Cup USA 94 *	CALL
Worlds of Legends	£ 14.99
X Wing	£ 30.99
X Wing Mission Disk Imperial	£ 13.99
X Wing Data Disk B Wing	£ 13.99
Zool	£ 12.99

PC ROM

10 Year Anthology	£ 35.99
Battle Isle 2	£ 32.99
Beneath a Steel Sky *	£ 31.99
Bloodnet *	£ 28.99
Central intelligence *	CALL
Comanche	£ 32.99
Comptons Interactive Encyclopedia	£ 105.99
Day of the Tentacle	£ 30.99
Diggers *	CALL
Dracula Unleashed *	£ 30.99
Dragonsphere	£ 27.99
Dune / 7th Guest	£ 49.99
Frontier Elite 2	£ 39.99
Gabriel Knight *	£ 28.99
Inferno *	CALL
Iron Helix	£ 27.99
Lawnmower Man	£ 36.99
Leisure Suit Larry 6 *	£ 28.99
Litil Divil *	CALL
Lost Files of Sherlock Holmes *	CALL
Maniac Sports *	CALL
Megarace	£ 26.99
Microcosm	£ 40.99
Out Post *	£ 31.99
Pagan Ultima 8 & Speech Pack	£ 44.99
Police Quest 4 *	£ 28.99
Quest for Glory 4 *	CALL
Ravenloft *	£ 31.99
Rebel Assault	£ 32.99
Sam & Max *	£ 28.99
Star Trek *	£ 32.99
Star Trek Next Generation *	CALL
Strike Commander	£ 32.99
Summer / Winter Challenge	£ 19.99
Syndicate Plus *	CALL
TFX	£ 32.99
Tornado	£ 32.99
UFO *	CALL
Winter / Summer Olympics *	CALL
Xanth *	CALL

PC BUSINESS

1st Design for Windows	£ 39.99
1st Press for Windows	£ 39.99
Creative Writer	£ 36.99
Mavis Beacon ver 2	£ 25.99
MS Dos 6.2	£ 58.99
Sage Moneywise	£ 29.99
Sage Moneywise Invoicing	£ 34.99

PC ACCESSORIES

Quickjoy Game Card	9.99
Quickshot Warrior 5	11.99
Quickshot Python 5	£ 10.99
Quickshot Starfighter 5	10.99
Quickshot Super Warrior	£ 18.99
Logic 3 Tornado	£ 13.99
Speedmouse 2 Logic 3	£ 14.99
3.5 "Disk Box holds 40	£ 4.99
3.5 "Disk Box holds 80	£ 6.99
Unbranded 3.5" blank disks x 10	£ 5.99
Zydec HD Disks 10	9.99
Mouse Mat	£ 1.99

Tel: 0268 725500
Fax: 0268 590076

Telephone Orders:
10am - 7pm Mon - Fri, 10am - 4pm Sat - Sun.
Answering Service at all other times.

Access SWITCH VISA

Callers by appointment only.
All prices include VAT & Postage for UK Mainland. Add £2.00 to postage price for Europe and £3.00 for rest of the world. Next day service available £3.70. Please send Cheques / PO's payable to:

SOFTWARE FIRST, 8 BUCKWINS SQUARE, BASILDON, ESSEX SS13 1BJ.

Please allow sufficient time for cheque clearance. Credit cards are not charged until day of despatch.
Please state make and model of computer when ordering.

If you can't see what you want please call, new stock arrives daily.

Some titles may not be released at time of going to press.
We supply only official UK product. Formats supported include Amiga, PC, ST, Master System, Megadrive and Game Gear.
All prices subject to change without notice. All items subject to availability. E & OE.

Name _____
Address _____
_____
Postcode _____ Telephone _____
ITEM _____ PRICE _____
ITEM _____ PRICE _____
ITEM _____ PRICE _____
POSTAGE _____
TOTAL _____

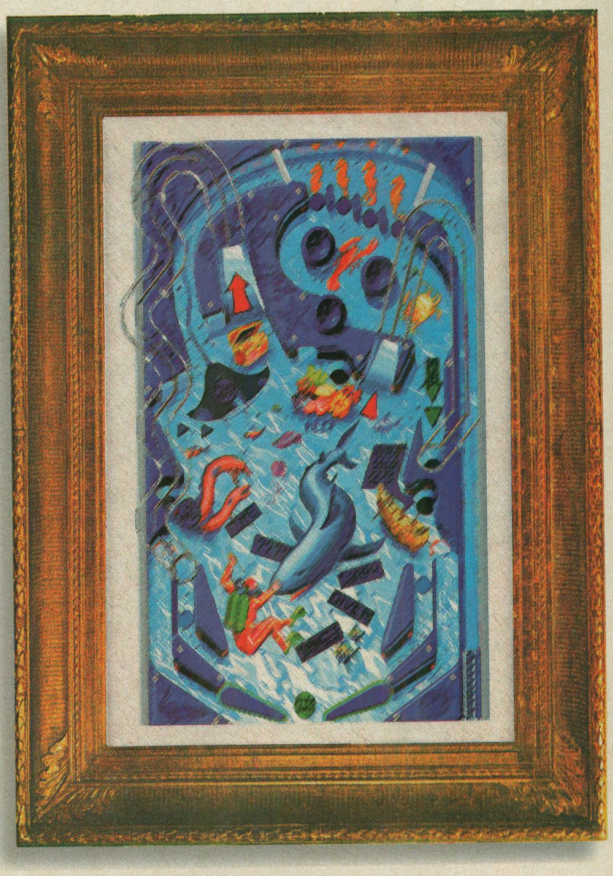
I enclose a cheque/PO made payable to **Software First** or please debit my Access/Visa:

Expiry Date: ____

Signature _____ GRP

Try CompuServe for FREE!

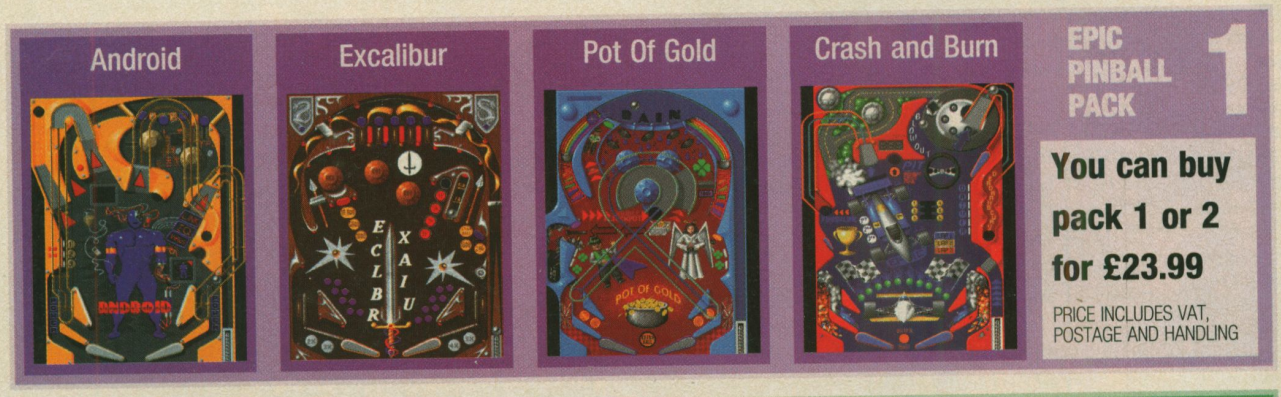
Epic Pinball, our Latest Masterpiece for Your PC



Epic MegaGames redefines the art of Pinball for PC compatibles with Epic Pinball by James Schmalz. It offers realistically fluid ball movement, a high-quality digital sound track and ultra-smooth scrolling graphics.

It's all here: ramps, sink holes, kickbacks, drop targets, multiple-ball play, jackpots, skill shots and scoring rules just like real pinball tables. Rated 91% by PC Format.

Epic Pinball offer a variety of pinball styles from the nostalgic Excalibur to the futuristic Enigma with targets and other surprises emerging from an oozing plasma field.



EPIC PINBALL PACK 1

You can buy pack 1 or 2 for £23.99

PRICE INCLUDES VAT, POSTAGE AND HANDLING

REQUIRES A 386 OR BETTER PC, 640 KB OF RAM AND VGA. SUPPORTS MAJOR SOUND CARDS INCLUDING GRAVIS ULTRASOUND



EPIC PINBALL PACK 2

Or, get BOTH pinball packs for £34.99

PRICE INCLUDES VAT, POSTAGE AND HANDLING

TO ORDER EPIC PINBALL CALL 0767 260903

Prices include VAT & postage. Cheques and major credit cards accepted. Non EC countries please add £2 additional postage. Each order includes a free BONUS game. In the USA/Canada call (800) 972-7434 to order or (301) 983-9771 for inquiries.

Epic MegaGames U.K. Ltd. · 11 Baker Street, Potton, Beds. SG19 2PJ · Fax 0767 262043 · CompuServe: 72662,1726

Epic Pinball packs are NOT AVAILABLE IN STORES but the shareware might be. It is definitely on CompuServe or a BBS near you. **Try CompuServe for FREE**, by calling 0800-289378 and ask for REP **#536** - (USA/Canada (800) 524-3388 and Germany 0130 2732). Once on CompuServe type **GO EPIC**. Or, send us a cheque or postal order for £2 p&p and we'll send you the SHAREWARE disk.

the PC Format Interview

JULIAN SAUNDERSON LAID BARE

Kids have got it easy these days. Time was when you had to struggle to be a programmer, or a graphic artist, or a musician. Now – pah! – you can learn it at university. Ed Ricketts wonders what the world is coming to.



PHOTOGRAPHY: ADRIAN FORD

COMING SOON

It's a little late for applications for the MA course now, but if you hurry you're still in with a chance. Contact the Centre for Electronic Arts at Middlesex University, Cat Hill, Barnet, Herts EN4 8HT for more details. Remember that the BA course begins in October 1995. Definitely don't apply for this now (it hasn't even been validated yet, for heaven's sake), but come the autumn you might want to contact the same address for details.

Middlesex University is dead, or at least part of it is. The Centre for Electronic Arts is about as busy as Duncan Goodhew's barber, a few people messing around with Macs in a desultory fashion. Julian Saunderson, programme leader of the newly-formed Design and Production of Interactive Games course at the uni, is unreservedly apologetic for this on the grand tour of the site. "There are normally many more people in this room. I don't know what's happened today," he offers, somewhat unnecessarily.

You can well believe it. Middlesex University has long been unique among seats of learning in that it offers courses in multimedia and other computer-related disciplines far removed from the usual shores of academia. Its latest project is the acronym-laden DPIG MA, the first course in the world designed specifically to produce professional-quality musicians, graphic artists, programmers and designers for the games industry. The initial inspiration for the idea came from Domark's sometime development manager, Russell Ferrier, who approached the University's Faculty of Art, Design and Performing Arts and found willing co-conspirators in the shape of Julian, and Huw Jones, programme leader for the forthcoming BA course. If you're handy with a graphics program, can wield a mean sampler or know just how to move a sprite in one frame, no longer do you have to fester in your bedroom and fume because no one recognises your talents. Get on the course and by the end of it you'll be perfectly placed for a job in the games industry.

"We're not expecting to come up with any saleable games at the end of the first course, but if we do it'll be an extra bonus." *Julian Saunderson*

AH, YES, BUT...

But don't pick up the phone just yet, it's not that simple. Julian is keen to point out that the course isn't for any old so-called whizzkid. You might have owned a computer since the days of the Sinclair Spectrum, you might have played more games than anyone else in the entire history of the world (although this is unlikely), you might have memorised the complete history of each graphic artist born since 1959. But unless you have some sort of design or programming experience, the MA course isn't for you. "Ideally applicants will already have a degree," Julian explains, "or some experience of working in graphic design, animation or digital music production. They don't necessarily need to have worked on the creation of a game – in fact it's unlikely that they will have. But experience is important. Someone rang up the other day, wanting a place, and said he had 14 years of computer experience. I asked him how old he was. It turns out he was 18. That's not the sort of computer experience we're after." If – or rather when – the MA course proves successful, a BA version (Design and Technology of Video Games) should begin, hopefully next year. This version of the course, in contrast, will be more than willing to take on those straight out of school but eager to learn about the industry.

GIVE US YER MONEY

Funding for the DPIG MA is not government-based. Course fees are £5,400 for 94/95 but, although this sounds like a lot of money for your average student to find, the idea is that the fees will be paid by a sponsoring software house.

"The course breaks down into three 15-week terms," explains Julian. "The first term is a very intensively-taught period in which the students learn about the various disciplines which combine to produce a game. In other words, a programmer has the chance to learn what a musician does, a graphic designer learns about programming, and so on, so there's a shared knowledge base. We're not trying to convert a programmer into a musician, just to give them a broader overview of areas they might not have covered before."

The next term is a placement within the student's sponsoring company. "This gives them practical experience in the workings of a professional software house and demonstrates the dynamics of such companies." In the third term all this theory (in theory) comes together in the design and implementation of a dummy game, from the initial idea through to the programming and documentation. And, before you ask, according to Julian: "We're not expecting to come up with any saleable →



We would just like to point out that Mr Saunderson doesn't normally do this sort of thing. It's just that he's been under a lot of strain recently what with arranging the DPIG MA and everything, and of course being an all-round good egg.

→ games at the end of this first course, but if we do it'll be an extra bonus."

As you might imagine, applicants haven't exactly been reticent in coming forward – the target intake is just 16 students, so many people are going to be disappointed. The idea has also been incredibly well received by software companies. "We've even had a few applicants from abroad. One very talented chap applied from Romania, he apparently received the highest degree in the entire country for programming, which shows you just how, er, limited the industry is over there. But no, I can't think of a single negative response we've had to the idea. We've had support pledged from most of the major software houses, but of course I can't mention most of them until everything's finalised. Sega has already furnished us with a lot of equipment, Mega Drives mostly, and Cross Products has given us its SNASM 2 development system [which is something of an industry standard]. That's not to say we don't want more. If any software house, manufacturer or development team out there wants to give us equipment we'd be more than happy to take it off their hands. They're the ones who will benefit in the long run, after all."

ALSO COMING SOON

If the course is successful, and it will be, expect other universities around the country to launch similar initiatives soon. We could soon be a nation of programmers, or artists, or musicians...

NOT COMING VERY SOON

We'll be following up the progress of the CEA students when the course has ended: who's made it big time, who hasn't, and who's the head of a multinational software company. Er, reserve your copies for the next year now. (It's worth a try.)

MACHINES OF ALL FLAVOURS

At the moment the Mac dominates at the Faculty of Art, Design and Performing Arts – there are machines of all flavours wherever you look. In one room a Silicon Graphics machine churns out someone's animation frame by agonising frame ("we'd like another one of these, please"), linked to a video recorder by a daunting tangle of wires and dodgy connections ("we're having some trouble with the video at the moment"). But while the walls are covered with scribblings, sketches and cryptic programming references aplenty, there's much less state-of-the-art equipment than you'd expect. "The PC is a horrible machine really – all those memory limitations and so on. But you'd be stupid not to take it seriously because it's the standard. The people at IBM must be kicking themselves that they released the details of the architecture so freely when it was first launched. We only use Macs a lot because they're easier for beginners to use at first." Julian believes the PowerPC will eventually become the dominant machine here because of its versatility, combining the best of both worlds.

"We're not trying to convert a programmer into a musician, just to give them a broader overview of areas they might not have covered before."

Julian Saunderson

The creation of such a course is obviously a major step in the maturing of the games industry. Cynics might say that if programmers, designers et al are to be taught by rote they'll produce games by rote, in much the same way as the Oxford and Cambridge Footlights crowd are often accused of in-breeding: a coterie of chummy ex-Uni guys and gals churning out code in their own nichey way. Julian believes the opposite is true – this situation is already the status quo and the course is just what's needed to liven up the industry.

"I think there's a major lack of new ideas in the games industry at the moment. Most games these days strive to be at a higher resolution than the last, or at a faster speed, but there aren't really any new ideas coming through. The software companies realise this while also knowing that there are people out there with concepts for potentially stunning new games, so it's in their interests to help these people. Of course they also get 15 weeks' essentially free trial to see if the student fits in or not, which is another incentive."

So on successful completion of the course, will the average graduate be able to step straight into a production or design job? "They should certainly have the experience necessary to get some sort of production manager job at a software house, but obviously not at the highest level. The course will be another step on the way to gaining the necessary expertise, but, particularly with the BA degree, we envisage that another two or three years' experience will be needed before candidates would be ready for a high-level position such as production manager. Of course it depends on the talent of the individual more than anything."

Indeed. There's no getting away from it, the production of a game is becoming more and more like an exercise in man-management rather than an expression of ideas, what with armies of people working on even single aspects of one title. If the course succeeds in blending temperamental artistic types with obsessive programming bods, then maybe those elusive new ideas will have a chance to surface before they're drowned in a sea of misunderstanding and continual bickering between experts of different disciplines. It seems as though the main thrust of the course isn't to teach but to bring people together, retaining their ideas and input but combining them in a controlled way. And that may just save the games industry from spiralling irretrievably into a pit of rehashes and rewrites, towards which it currently appears to be rapidly heading. PCF



If this is the Corridor of Life, Julian Saunderson must be the Keeper of the Way. Except it isn't, it's the Centre for Electronic Arts at Middlesex University, April 1994.

HITCH A RIDE WITH SAM & MAX™... THEY DON'T BRAKE FOR ANYTHING!!!



Holy squimoley! Freelance Police Sam & Max are on the trail of Bruno and Bigfoot and his fiancee the giraffe-neck lady. Nothing unusual there. But when Sam is a contemplative canine and Max a trouble-seeking hyperkinetic rabbit, you know you're talking animal crazy.

Bounding across America the furry flatfoots will take you on an irreverent road trip adventure that will put hair on your back. Collide with tacky tourist traps and intimidate their bizarre denizens.

- Edgy animation!
- Twisted humour!
- Gratuitous antisocial behaviour!
- Mini-games to play when you're at work!
- Roadside attractions your parents refused to stop at!
- Full-screen graphics!
- Easy, pop-up verb and dialogue icons!

So tune up the car, water the cat and make a half-crazed beeline to your nearest retailer for *Sam & Max Hit the Road.*™ Don't forget to bring clean underwear!

AVAILABLE FOR THE IBM PC. COMING SOON FOR THE IBM CD ROM.

Sam & Max Hit the Road™ and ©1993 LucasArts Entertainment Company. All Rights Reserved. Used under Authorization. Sam & Max is a trademark of Steve Purcell. LucasArts is a trademark of LucasArts Entertainment Company. The LucasArts logo is a registered service mark of LucasArts Entertainment Company. IBM is a registered trademark of International Business Machines.

AVAILABLE FOR THE IBM PC AND COMPATIBLES. VISIT YOUR RETAILER OR CALL 1-800-STARWARS.

Marketed and Distributed by U.S. Gold Ltd., 1-4 Cuckoo Wharf, Lichfield Road, Birmingham B6 7SS. Tel: 021 606 1800.

SOUND FX Classic 3000

Reality sounds like this !



PC FORMAT *recommended*

"This card exudes quality, both in terms of build and performance"
PC Format, April 1994

Sounds so real, you'd think you were there. The Sound FX Classic 3000's PCM Wavetable Synthesiser (in hardware) gives you amazing true-to-life sounds enabling you to recreate reality on your PC.

The Classic 3000 is compatible with Adlib, Soundblaster. Microsoft, General MIDI, Roland MPU-401, Sound Canvas, Roland GS, and MT-32 instruments. If that's not enough, the Classic 3000's on-board 8 M-bit ROM contains over 300 samples of real sounds and instruments making it the most compatible card on the market today – and we mean really compatible – see PC Format, April 1994.

But the fun doesn't stop there. The Classic 3000 samples and plays sound at up to 16-bit 44.1KHz crystal clear CD quality. And there's more . . . the Classic 3000 incorporates a MIDI interface, a joystick port, multiple CD-ROM interfaces, an on-board digital stereo mixer, line in/out and microphone sockets, a 4-Watt amplifier, wave editor and multimedia software. . . all this for £199+VAT RRP.

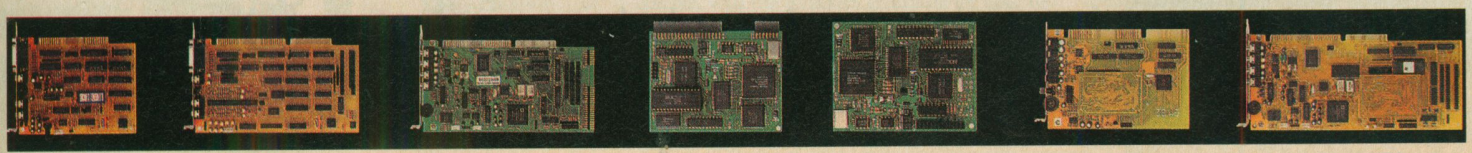
So whether you're a professional musician, an avid games player, or someone trying to find multimedia's missing link, the Sound FX Classic 3000 will give you every sound you'll ever need !

MT "the 3000 contains some of the best sounds I've heard on a PC card"
Music Technology, March 1994

Bluepoint Tel# 0908-277007

Bluepoint Monitor Corporation (UK) Ltd. 17-19 James Way, Milton Keynes. MK1 1SU

Microsoft Sound System Compatible · SOB Compatible · PC Multimedia PC · Microsoft Windows Compatible · PC2 Multimedia PC · Photo CD · Compact Disc Digital Audio

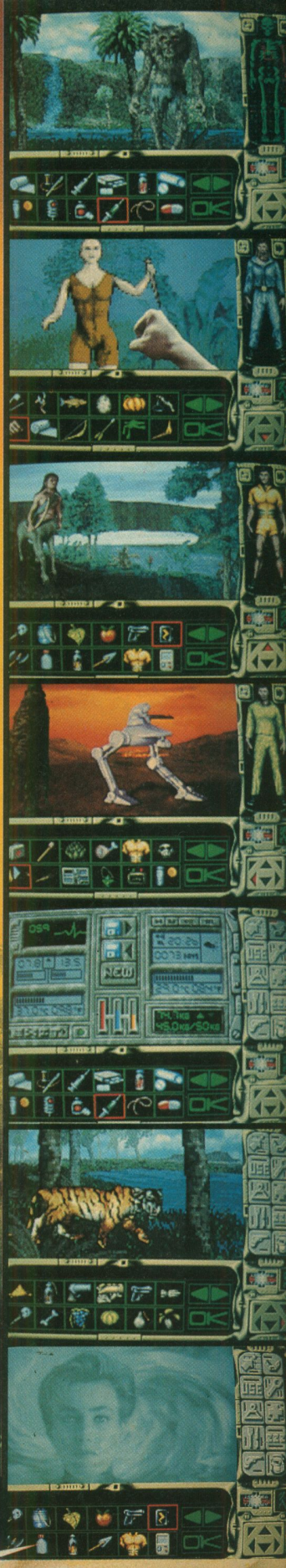


Sound FX · Sound FX Pro · Sound FX 16 · Wave FX Plug, n' play · Wave FX Upgrade Kit · Sound FX Classic 1000 · Sound FX Classic 3000

SIT THE ONE PRISON THAT NEEDS NO BARS...

ROBINSON'S REQUIEM





inson's Requiem is a
ival/adventure simulation set in a
tlingly realistic virtual environment the
of which has never been seen before.

Scenario
risoned on an alien planet your aim is to escape. If you have to
utate one of your own limbs to stay alive, then that's what you must do.
tures more than 100 variables managed in real time : your body temperature, stress,
gue, pain, disease, gangrene, hallucinations...
Prison

pectacular world in mapped 3D, computed in real time. Over 3 square miles of play area includes : canyons, hills,
erfalls, and caves.

Challenge
t and gather food, find water, make your own clothing and weapons, deal with health hazards and fight off predators, test
survival skills to the very limit, and get the hell off that planet !

Silmarils

Available for PC and compatibles
AMIGA / AMIGA 1200
ATARI ST / STE / Falcon
Coming this September :
Jaguar, 3DO, and CD32 versions !

SILVER DREAM MACHINE



ILLUSTRATION: JEREMY NORTON

There's no longer any way you can ignore them. They're on the front of PCF, they're invading the games market, they're the immediate future of the PC. We are talking CD-ROMs, and also perhaps Ed Ricketts and Richard Longhurst.

CD-ROM drives are here, finally, to stay. Nearly a year ago, VIE released *The 7th Guest*, the first CD-only game that was any good, and proved once and for all that if you didn't have a CD-ROM drive in your PC, you were going to miss out big time.

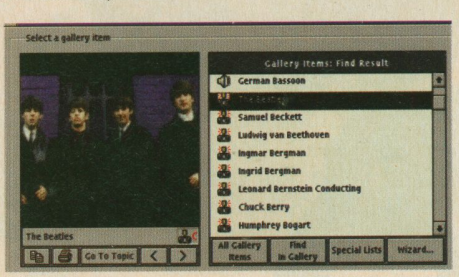
CD titles are no longer expensive rarities, reserved by software houses for their most prestigious games – they're just another format, one which is replacing the floppy. The benefits are obvious. First, the 650Mb-odd storage capacity makes games possible that would otherwise not be feasible on floppy. CDs can hold standard audio, digitised video and speech, megabytes of graphics and volumes of text. They're cheap, too, compared to floppies. A 10-disk game can be shunted on to one CD and distributed for half the price, which virtually removes restrictions on game size incurred by distribution costs. They never wear out and they're easy to store. The only thing they lack is speed, and even this is being overcome with the new generation of triple-speed drives.

Thanks to titles such as *Guest* and *Encarta*, there's now a sufficient user base to make CD-only titles not just profitable but essential. A year ago, the general idea was that if a game was released on floppy, a CD version might turn up four months later with a few extra sounds bunged on and costing £10 more. It was easy to be sceptical about the medium when the only titles around were shovelware collections of shareware and the odd barely-enhanced game which wasn't much good to begin with. Now it's the opposite. Interplay has delayed the release of *Stonekeep* until the autumn so it can finish the CD-ROM version and release that first, with a possibility of a cut-down floppy edition later. EA has said that by this time next year it will be producing CD titles only, and it's likely that many major softies will follow.

So, in case you haven't got the message: no matter which area of the PC you're interested in, you need a CD-ROM drive. But with so many apparent bargains appearing on both the hardware and software front, it's hard to know what to go for. Over the next few pages we are going to round up the best CD hardware and software and kick it 'till it bleeds, as well as having a look at some of the latest techniques that CD makes possible. ➔

WHAT CD MEANS TO *PC FORMAT*

In the six months leading up to December 1993, *PCF* sold an average of 75,094 copies a month with a cover-mounted 3.5-inch disk. The print run for *PCF* with the cover-mounted CD was a further 30,000 copies. CD is big and it's getting bigger.



***A Hard Day's Night* – it's on tape, it's on vinyl, it's on CD and now it's on PC CD-ROM.**



Cruise around rendered race tracks in The Software Toolworks' *MegaRace*, which sold 100,000 copies in its first week on sale.

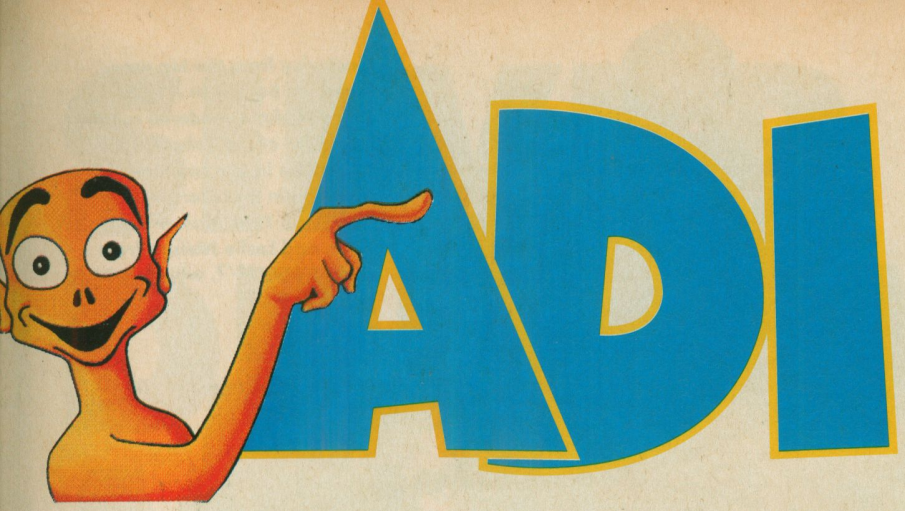


LucasArts' CD shoot-'em-up *Rebel Assault* perfectly captured the stirring *Star Wars* atmosphere, Walkers and all.



Clockwise from the top we have: the Beatles in *A Hard Day's Night*, a rendered robot from *Rise of the Robots*, Cyberjobe in *The Lawnmower Man*, Stalin and Martin Luther King from *Time Man of the Year*, and Leslie Nielsen from *Naked Gun* $2^{1/2}$, which is out on VideoCD.

And clockwise from the bottom we have: *Sam and Max Hit the Road* (the talkie CD version), Andre Agassi appearing in *Encarta 1994*, a selection of film stars from *Cinemania 1994*, while in the centre there's an X-wing fighter, the real star of *Rebel Assault*.



and your PC can help you gain top marks in the GCSE exams

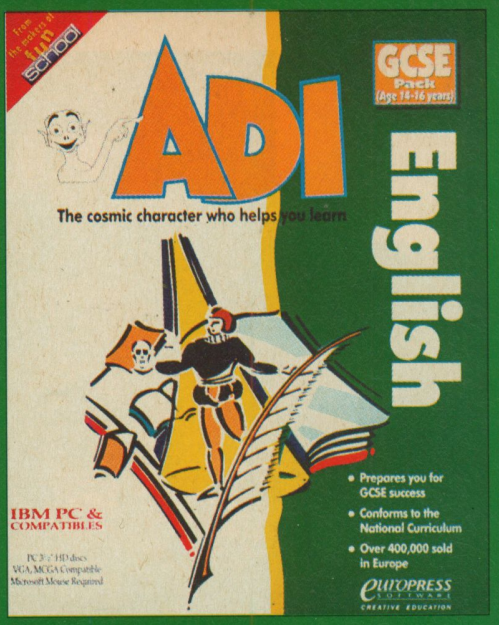
Banish GCSE worries with the help of these best-selling packages from the ADI range of tried and tested educational software.

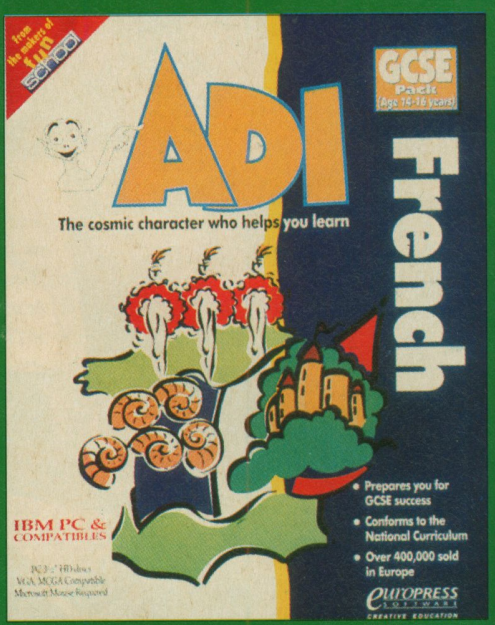
Prepared by a team of experienced teachers to meet the exacting requirements of the National Curriculum, they contain progressive exercises that encourage the pupils's active involvement.

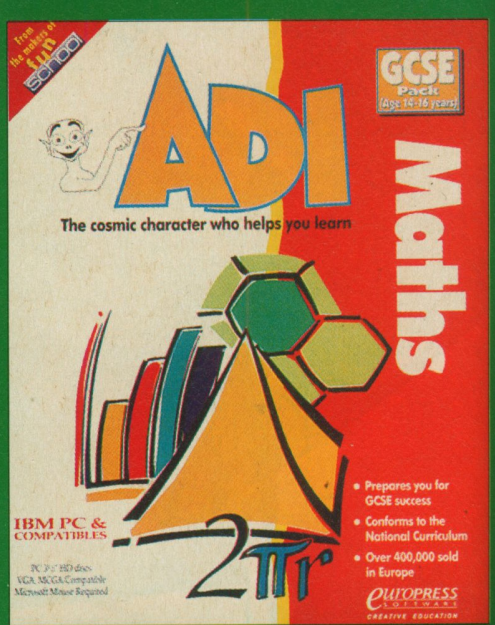
Throughout, ADI himself – the smart extra-terrestrial guide – offers help and friendly advice, monitors the pupil's progress and produces detailed reports. He even provides a host of fun games games for relaxation and reward after studies are over!

ADI's three GCSE packages, covering Maths, English and French, are available from any of the dealers listed below. Or call Europress Software on 0625 859333.

europress SOFTWARE







	AGES	Primary School 4-5	Primary School 6-7	Secondary School 11-12	Secondary School 12-13	Secondary School 13-14	Secondary School 14-16
ADI	Maths			✓	✓	✓	✓
ADI	English			✓	✓	✓	✓
ADI	French			✓	✓	✓	✓
ADI Junior	Counting 4/5	✓					
ADI Junior	Reading 4/5	✓					
ADI Junior	Counting 6/7		✓				
ADI Junior	Reading 6/7		✓				

NORTH WEST **Ashton under Lyne:** VU Data (061 339 0326) **Bolton:** Bolton Computer Centre (0204 841937) **Bolton:** Computer World UK (0204 495011) **Burnley:** Burnley Computer Centre (0282 31108) **Lancaster:** Castle Computers (0524 611 **Manchester (Arndale Centre):** Computer Software Centre (061 224 3375) **Stockport:** VU Data (061 477 6739) **MIDLANDS AND SOUTH WALES** **Birmingham:** Mr Disk (021 643 6222) **Coventry:** Coventry Computer Centre (0203 2230 **Cwmbran:** Soft Centre (0633 868131) **Leamington Spa:** Spa Computers (0926 337648) **Nottingham:** ST Electronics (0602 632467) **Stoke on Trent:** Town Computers (0782 287540) **Swansea:** Mertec (0792 467980) **SOUTH EAST** **Brighton:** Gam (0273 728681) **Canterbury:** Computer World (0227 766788) **Ealing Broadway:** Barkmans (081 840 4114) **Ipswich:** Bits'n'Bytes (0473 219961) **Kingston:** 5 – 12 Software (081 974 8900) **Kingston upon Thames:** Barkmans (081 546 5941) **Leigh on Se** Platinum (0268 778909) **London:** Datel Electronics (071 580 6460) **Milton Keynes:** Softly (0908 670620) **St Albans:** Hobbyte (0727 856005) **Swanley:** **Kent:** Swanley Computers (0322 613937) **Thurrock:** Database (0708 890976) **The Plaza: London W** Input (071 636 2666) **Worthing:** Worthing Computers (0903 230940) **NORTH EAST** **Gateshead:** Maughan Micros (091 493 2308) **Hull:** Tomorrows World (0482 24887) **Stockton:** Topsoft (0642 670503). Calculus stores please ring head office on 05 418666 for your nearest store. Next Level please ring head office on 0532 458600 for your nearest store. Comtazia please ring head office on 0384 261698 for your nearest store Game Ltd please ring head office on 081 974 1555 for your nearest store



Here is a shocking scene from *The 11th Hour*, Trilobyte's chilling sequel to the seminal *7th Guest*. It's got FMV galore.

THE DISK IS DEAD, LONG LIVE THE DISC



With a great moaning and a beating of chests, the last 3.5-inch disk was laid to rest. Except that nobody noticed, especially not Richard Longhurst, who was too busy looking forward to the future of CD and FMV.

Naaaa, it won't happen, will it? The 3.5-inch disk will never die, it'll just grow old. It'll always be around, won't it? Or will it? Just as it's hard to countenance the disappearance of the 3.5-inch disk in 1994, back in 1991 it was almost impossible to believe that the 5.25-inch disk would die. When *PC FORMAT* was launched in September 1991, we cover-mounted a low-density 3.5-inch disk because we couldn't guarantee that enough readers had high-density disk drives. The 5.25-inch disk was still extremely popular, and the magazine's initial print-run was split evenly between the two disk sizes. But now the 5.25-inch disk is dead – it's hard to buy a new machine with a truly floppy disk drive, and it's even harder to by software on a truly floppy disk. And now the 3.5-inch disk is under threat from compact discs.

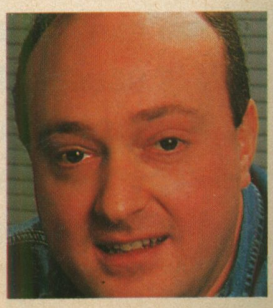
We all know they're cheaper to produce and we know they're harder to copy, but the main reason that CD is going to be the death of the disk is that it's the only format that can cope with the sort of games that are being produced nowadays. Rendered 3D graphics, high-resolution images, speech, music and full-motion video sequences (FMV) all take up huge amounts of space – more space than any hard disk could cope with, and more space than hundreds of floppy disks could hope to provide. Today's discerning gamers expect their £45 software to thrill from the moment the intro sequence loads to the moment the last monster dies an agonising death, and the only way to do that is by using all these graphical tricks and techniques.

CD is the only medium that enables developers to push the PC's graphics to the full, and in the rush to provide bigger and

→

"The first generation of CD titles is coming to an end now, and games producers have learnt from their mistakes."

John Roberts, VIE



IT'S NOT JUST GAMES

The Software Toolworks is one of the world's leading suppliers of CD software. It has sold more than 3,000,000 CDs worldwide, with the last million being clocked up in 1993, and there's much more to come. "The growth of the CD-ROM market over the last year has proven to be dramatic in both speed and size... We have plans to release 25 CD titles this year, including an FMV version of *World Atlas*." Jim Mackonochie, Software Toolworks' Sales and Marketing Director.



One of Paul Daniels' arms comes free with every ReelMagic MPEG video board.

WHAT'S ALL THIS FMV AND MPEG BUSINESS?

True full-motion video means running full-screen video on the PC at 24 frames per second. Regular VGA and SVGA graphics cards can't handle this, and CD-ROM drives aren't capable of delivering the amount of data required at the speed required. Oh, and even they haven't got the storage capacity needed, say, to put a decent length film on a disc. Quite obviously, what's needed is a system that compresses the data when it's stored on the CD, thus saving space and ensuring less data has to be transferred from the CD, and then decompressed somewhere inside the PC before being flashed up on the screen. Hang on a minute, isn't that, in a nutshell, what MPEG (Motion Pictures Expert Group) compression does? Well, again in a nutshell, yes.

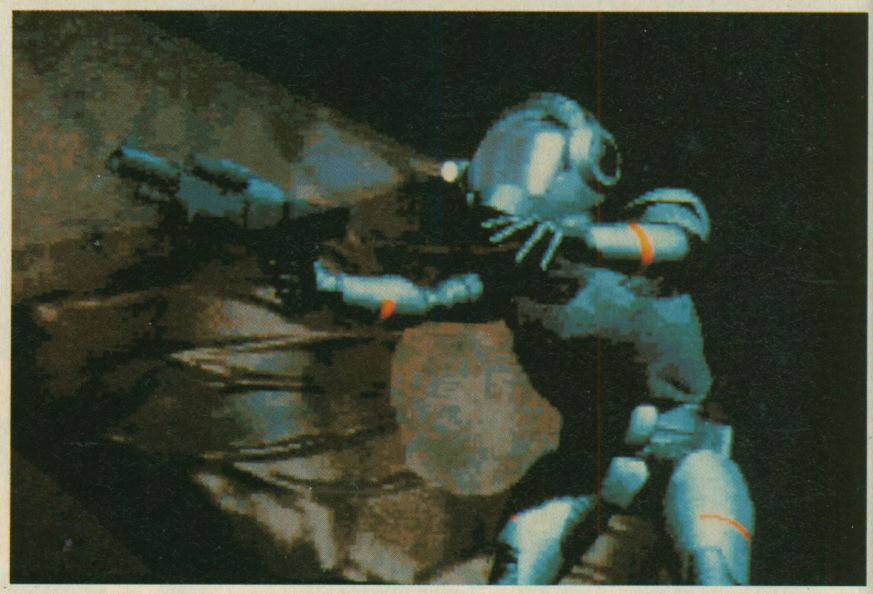
So, it's totally fab and groovy, then? Yes, because it provides a standard that enables developers to create games with FMV, and no because you need to buy an MPEG graphics card, such as the ReelMagic Lite, which costs a cool £300, or the ReelMagic CD-ROM upgrade kit which enables you to play videoCDs and costs a positively arctic £650. Software support for MPEG cards such as ReelMagic is limited to a handful of games and fistfuls of videoCDs, but more is on the way. VIE's Mat Spall sees MPEG as a boon as far as FMV is concerned, but it's not without its

NOT JUST GAMES, 2

Microsoft's surge into leisure computing continues with the launch of four new CDs, two of which feature video footage. *Ancient Lands* and *Dangerous Creatures* are the discs to go for if you want to see video, while *Multimedia Strauss* and reference work *Bookshelf '94* are the ones to watch if you're not that bothered. All of them are due out in June for less than £50, except for *Bookshelf*, which will cost a couple of p under £100.

→ better games, the humble disk is getting left behind. Joss Ellis, Electronic Arts' director of European development, thinks that CD is very important to the future of computer games. "Increasingly, interactive entertainment contains more speech, CD-quality audio and large amounts of video. All this takes up a lot of space and even with the very best compression techniques floppy disks are untenable. As a delivery medium, nothing else currently approaches CD's capacity vs price. The one major drawback of CDs is their speed – both of data transfer and seek times [the time it takes the laser to get to the right place on the disc], but with better design and implementation of software, coupled with 2x, 3x and now 4x drives, this is becoming less of an issue."

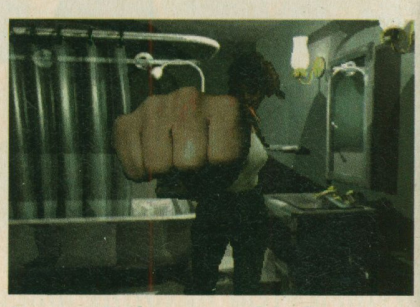
At VIE, producer John Roberts already sees the disk dying. "With Virgin, the products we are currently designing and signing are for CD only, so apart from a few exceptional instances we are now a CD-only company. Most new PCs now have a CD-ROM drive, and by the end of this year all new PCs will have one. There are still floppy-based machines out there, but the people owning them will think about upgrading very soon – most of these have small hard drives that wouldn't really be suitable for the 30Mb+ products that are coming out regularly on floppy now."



Creature Shock **blends rendered graphics and FMV to create some stunning visuals.**



Cryo's strategy adventure *The Lost Eden* is to feature FMV of real dinosaurs. Honest.



Return to Zork **was one of the first FMV games to support the ReelMagic card.**

INTERACTIVE ACTION

John is currently working on two major projects, both of which are being developed by Cryo in France, and both of which are incorporating massive amounts of FMV. *Scavenger* is an interactive action movie filmed on location in Paris, and won't be released until 1995, but we can expect to see dinosaur adventure *The Lost Eden* in the summer. As you might imagine, without CD these games wouldn't exist, and without FMV *Scavenger* couldn't even begin to pretend to be an interactive movie. For John Roberts, FMV is an important step in the merging of films and computer games. "FMV brings us closer to the movie industry, which is something we have been heading towards for a number of years. It's important to bring greater realism to a game, to reinforce the illusion that the player is trying to immerse himself in. Previously, games had used small hand-drawn computer graphics to depict the hero, but FMV has the possibility to make you believe you are in a fantasy world, and to make an impact on your emotions, much like a director would like to achieve with a movie."

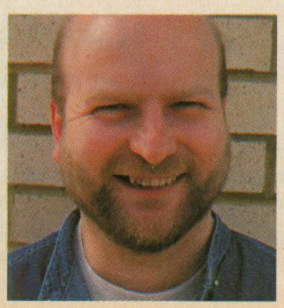
Matt Spall, VIE producer responsible for CD extravaganzas *Creature Shock*, *Command and Conquer* and *Lands of Lore 2*, also recognises the potential of FMV. "Full-motion video is important for the future of video games. It seems obvious to me that as CD-based platforms become more and more popular the public will demand 'interactive movies' which can only be done with some kind of FMV system."

BRIDGE THE GAP

Yep, that's all fine and dandy, but the reality of video in software doesn't quite live up to expectations. Whether it's games such as *The 7th Guest* or infotainment titles such as *Encarta 1994* and *Cinemania 1994*, you're usually stuck with a postage stamp-sized window and frame-by-frame jerk-o-vision™. Anyone who is unfamiliar with computers would laugh at the inept quality in comparison with what they see

"In too many instances FMV is used as filler and fluff, often at the expense of old-fashioned gameplay."

Kevin Buckner, Electronic Arts



problems. "The increasing use of FMV within video games is becoming much more widespread, but the standardisation will be a problem. MPEG is the most talked about and the best quality FMV system around, but limits you to unbroken sequences of graphics with the added problems of how to overlay extra graphics. There are software FMV systems that people are using that rely on 256 colours, but produce slightly blocky results, as *Rebel Assault* and *Creature Shock* clearly illustrate."

And even if everybody agrees to use the MPEG standard, Mat Spall reckons not everyone is singing from the same technical hymn sheet. "There is a problem of standardisation. Although MPEG encoding and decoding is laid out as a standard it would seem that hardware manufacturers like to use their own decoder and generally encode the discs they do to only work on their system. Software-driven FMV will become much better once MPC2 becomes more popular."

Hardware video compression using MPEG promises much, but until there's a large installed base of MPEG cards, software houses are going to be reluctant to invest the cash in producing high-quality movie-style games. Eighteen months ago, PC owners were extremely reluctant to buy CD-ROM drives, but prices have plummeted and decent software *(The 7th Guest, Rebel Assault* and *MegaRace)* has started to appear to make a CD-ROM drive an extremely attractive proposition. The same process could happen with ReelMagic, especially because developers have already noticed that FMV hasn't quite lived up to the public's high expectations.

Steve Clark is the producer of *The 11th Hour*, Trilobyte and VIE's scary sequel to *The 7th Guest*, and he sees the current failings of FMV, but has high hopes for its future. "There are many design issues that need to be addressed, and this will take time and experimentation. Technology is still a barrier to fully-interactive FMV, and in the short term, design improvements will be needed to blend video sequences with products which would otherwise be fully interactive. Working with studios and authors (such as Clive Barker) is helping, but longer term, technology will deliver the power needed to generate video in real time."

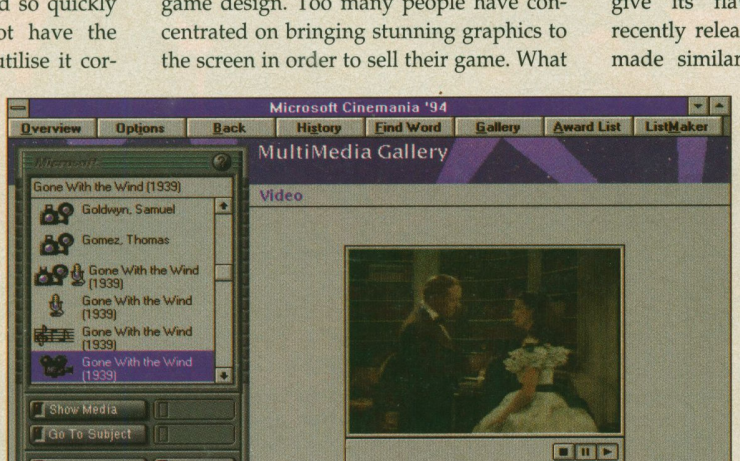
on the TV, but just because it's on a PC monitor why are we supposed to get hot and sweaty at the idea of it? Let's face it, by and large, video on the PC has been pretty dire, but why? John Roberts has an answer.

"FMV has been poor so far for a number of reasons. The technology bringing this to games evolved so quickly that game producers did not have the expertise to understand and utilise it correctly. We did not bridge the gap between games people and movie people, and instead used inexperienced people to do things which the film industry has been doing for decades."

It's easy to spot the software houses that have tried to bridge the gap, and it certainly shows in the games they produce. Activision used talents such as Robin Lively and Jason Hervey to star in *Return to Zork*, Sierra used Mark Hamill and Tim Curry to provide the voices for the CD version of *Gabriel Knight: Sins of the Fathers*. And instead of using professional actors, Coktel Vision used members of its staff in *Inca 2*. With major Hollywood studios buying in to the software industry (Universal has bought Interplay, and Sony, which owns Columbia, has bought Psygnosis), the film companies are going to take more control over the games that use their licenses. They're going to share their actors, their expertise and their cash. Which brings us on to John Roberts' next explanation for the lack of quality FMV.

"The second important reason was budgets. It was quickly discovered how much money doing good quality FMV would cost – actors, sets, producers etc. The games industry was not prepared for these expenses and therefore did without the expertise. The first generation of CD games is coming to an end now, and games producers have learnt from their mistakes. Given the budgets we will produce movie-quality FMV.

"However, the quality of the acting and direction is only one problem that needs attention. Interactivity on what is essentially a linear format is another. Better hardware can remedy this to some degree – in theory it is possible to make a totally interactive movie although the amount of filming, CD space and money required probably prohibits this for some time yet. The easiest cure is simply much better game design. Too many people have concentrated on bringing stunning graphics to the screen in order to sell their game. What is needed now is more thought on design and game genre in order to maximise FMV use in a game."



Video sequences are cropping up all over the place, and are used to excellent effect in infotainment titles such as Microsoft's *Cinemania 1994*.

USED AND ABUSED

And they're thinking along similar lines over at Electronic Arts. Kevin Buckner, the producer of delights such as *Syndicate* and *Theme Park:* "I believe FMV is very important and we are coming closer to that interactive television standard, but I have my concerns about the usage of FMV. In too many instances it is used as filler and fluff, often at the expense of old-fashioned gameplay. It seems customary that all new technologies get abused before they are properly used."

What? You mean CD isn't an automatic panacea for all gaming evils? You mean people won't put up with clicking their way through minute after minute of predetermined sequences just to get a bash at a second-rate puzzle game? You mean games such as *The 7th Guest* and *The Lawnmower Man* (reviewed on page 75) aren't very good? Let's face it, they're not. *The 7th Guest* succeeded because it was the first of its kind, and back in mid-1993 the graphics were so good that we could forgive its flawed gameplay. But SCI's recently released *The Lawnmower Man* has made similar mistakes and its graphics aren't even that good, especially because they're only in 32 colours.

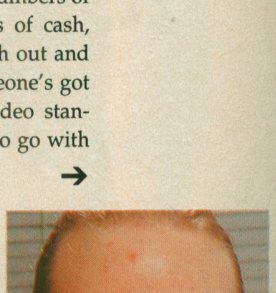
DRIVING FMV FORWARD

Video in real time could be the answer to many gaming evils, but it's still a long, long way off. Joss Ellis thinks a number of factors will drive FMV forward. "Better hardware like MPEG II, greater bandwidth and custom chips help a lot, and faster processors enable the use of more effective and complex algorithms such as wavelet compression and fractal techniques." But these are only part of the solution, there are more basic issues that also have to be addressed – "A mass market audience will not put up with hammy acting and poor production values for long."

So there we have it. CD is the future of PC entertainment, and FMV is set to play a large part in it, but only if huge numbers of developers invest huge amounts of cash, and huge numbers of people rush out and buy the games. Oh yes, and someone's got to come up with a definitive video standard and some cheap hardware to go with it. Simple, huh? →

"As CD-based platforms become more popular the public will demand 'interactive movies' that can only be done with FMV."

Matt Spall, VIE



NOT JUST ETC ETC

One of the advantages of the PC is that hardware developments are not solely driven by the demands made by games. With companies such as Microsoft including video sequences in infotainment titles, the pressure for advances in hardware will soon become overwhelming.

And so it was that during the age of Ragnarok, Heimdall, beloved of the Gods, came to Earth from Valhalla to find the pieces of a Sacred Amulet - the power of which would banish the evil Loki from the viking lands.

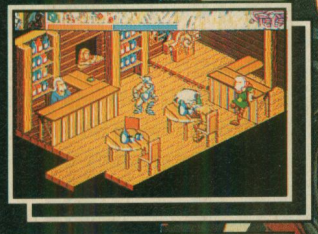
It came to pass that Heimdall's quest was revealed in the mighty saga that is....

Heimdall 2











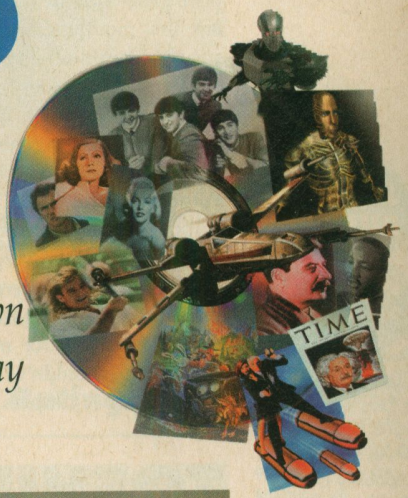
THE 8

CORE DESIGN LIMITED

AVAILABLE FOR ALL IBM PC COMPATIBLES AND PC CD ROM

CORE DESIGN LIMITED 55 ASHBOURNE ROAD DERBY DE22 3FS TEL: (0332) 297797 FAX: (0332) 381511

GOING FOR A DRIVE?



Still haven't got a CD-ROM drive after all that? For goodness' sake, read our round-up of eight drives and choose one quickly before your name changes to A Luddite. The next three pages give you the low-down on a range of drives from around £100 to £400. Do you get what you pay for? Ed Ricketts spins the discs.

NEC MULTISPIN 3Xi

PCF Recommended

£346.63 Simply Computers ☎ 081 523 4020

IT'S THAT LITTLE '3' IN THE title (along with the price) that tells you this is something special. The 3Xi is a triple-speed drive, capable of a massive 450K/s transfer rate with a correspondingly tiny 195ms access time. This, combined with the 256K buffer (which can cache four times as much information than most drives) and the small computers system interface, means you won't find a faster drive for under £500. But the drive doesn't just have speed, it has everything. A front-mounted LCD panel informs you of just what the drive's doing, and traditional audio CD transport controls (play track, next track, and so on) mean it can be used as a stand-alone unit. Build quality is exceptional, from the smooth eject mechanism to the attractive styling. All necessary cables and fittings are included, along with a superb manual, by far the best of those featured here.

The considerable asking price buys you not only an excellent drive for today's applications, but also ensures you won't be left behind by future developments. Just one warning: this price doesn't include a SCSI or indeed any driver software. Such kits are available either from Simply or other suppliers for around £50.



We were especially excited about the NEC Multispin 3Xi. In fact, when it arrived in the office we threw a small street party.

PCF Rating 88%

ORCHID CDS-3110

PCF Recommended

£169.94 Simply Computers ☎ 081 523 4020

BECAUSE MANY MID-RANGE drives are much of a muchness, it takes a model with a little extra to warrant your cash. The CDS-3110 has many little extras.

In performance terms it could be any other standard double-speed multi-session drive, delivering a maximum transfer rate of 300K/s with a slightly disappointing 350ms access time. The bonuses come with build quality and features. For a start, there's an excellent manual in the grand tradition of Orchid hardware, answering every question you might have and a few you didn't know you wanted to ask, if you see what I mean. The drive itself is solid and well-built with a smooth motorised eject, and features a front-mounted track play button for easy access to audio CD tracks. It's also one of the few models that looks slightly different from the mass of bland white drives. Not that this makes any difference whatsoever, but it's a good touch.

The interface card includes phono audio out jacks (you can also interface to Orchid soundcards) for connection to a stereo. In general, the Orchid CDS-3110 feels much more solid and reliable than many similarly-priced models, and it's this quality which justifies the rather impressive high mark. →



The Orchid CDS-3110 didn't get quite such a warm reception, but we did have a whip-round to buy it some chocolates.

PCF Rating 82%

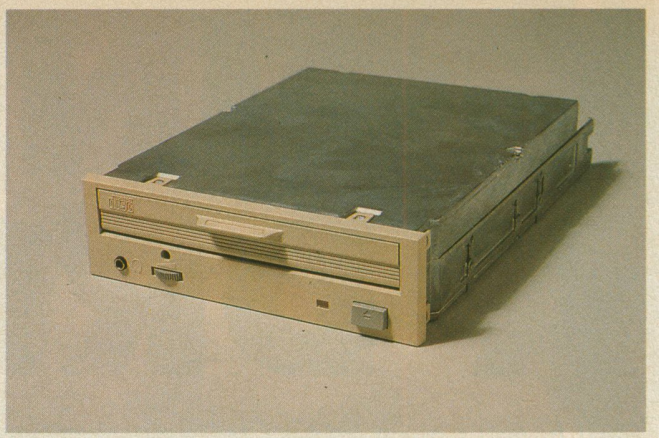
JARGON BUSTERS

ACCESS TIME
The amount of time it takes the drive to move the read head to the correct position on the CD, measured in milliseconds (ms). Access time doesn't impact the drive's overall speed as much as the transfer rate (see Jargon Busters on page 46), but it's still significant. A double-speed drive should have an an access time of 290m/s or less.

CD-ROM XA
Compact Disc Read Only Memory Extended Architecture, as it's snappily known. A newish format which interleaves audio data with computer data on the disc. The PC reads some audio, plays it while simultaneously reading program data, then reads audio, and so on. In this way the CD acts as both the soundtrack and the source for data, without the need to digitise audio.

TOSHIBA KT3401BA/K

£395.98 Magic Media ☎ 081 343 9933



We were out when the Toshiba KT3401 arrived, but it left a note and we found it down the pub having a drink with the Sony.

THE TOSH HAS FALLEN IN price quite considerably over the last few months. It's a double-speed multi-session drive capable of transfer rates of around 330K/s with an access time of 200ms – in other words, it's bloody fast, thanks to its Future Domain SCSI interface (supplied with the drive).

Installation is surprisingly simple for a SCSI drive, unless you have another conflicting SCSI component; for most systems you shouldn't have to touch any jumpers. Build quality is high – there's a dust-proof flap covering the motorised eject mechanism which delivers the caddy smoothly but at a rate of knots. Full marks to the manual too, which is written in English for once and takes you through each installation step in great detail (in German and French too, in case you're interested). Bundled software is limited to the device drivers and a Kodak PhotoCD demo disc.

You can't fault the Toshiba. It's fast, reliable, built to a high standard and future-proof for at least the next year. A solid buy, but quite unreasonably expensive. If it was just £50 cheaper the Tosh could have walked away with a *PC FORMAT* Gold Award. A pity, because it's a fine drive.

PCF Rating 78%

TOSHIBA XM4101B

£245.58 Simply Computers ☎ 081 523 4020



Then of course the other Tosh turned up and there was much pally whirring between the two drives. *(Are you sure about this? – Dan)*

THE CUTELY-NAMED XM4101B is the KT3401BA/K's younger brother, fascinatingly enough. It too is a SCSI-based double-speed multi-session drive, using the same Future Domain interface and drivers (supplied).

From the outside there's not much to differentiate them – the same high build quality and smooth motorised eject are included, though this model uses a tray rather than a caddy. There's no particular merit in using a caddy system over a tray, except of course you can lose a caddy. On the other hand, caddies tend to give more protection and a more stable environment. The manuals are good, if not quite as exemplary as the KT3401's.

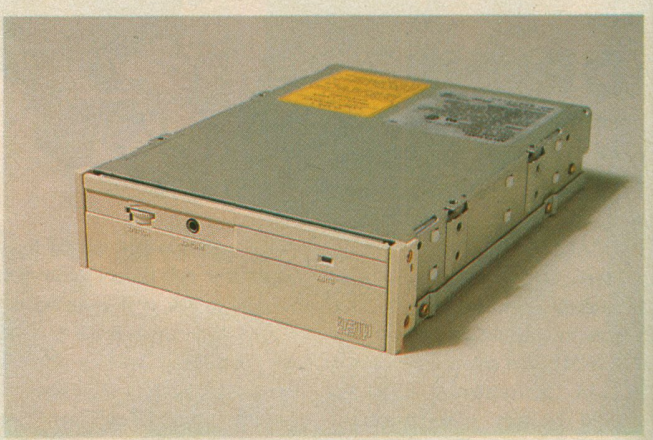
The price difference is down to the speed – bank on a transfer rate of 300K/s with an access time of 385ms and you won't go far wrong. It's this gargantuan access time which prevents the drive from being a front-runner in the value race. As we've mentioned before, the access time isn't nearly as important as the transfer rate, until you reach these dizzy heights. Only then does it become noticeable.

Apart from that, the Toshiba XM4101B is without doubt a superb drive and worth investigation if none of the others takes your fancy.

PCF Rating 76%

MITSUMI FX001D

£175.08 Simply Computers ☎ 081 523 4020



When the Mitsumi FX001D wandered in we mistook it for the LU005, with hilarious results, as you might imagine.

THE FOLLOW-UP TO THE astoundingly cheap but astoundingly awful LU005, the single-speed drive which flummoxed many new drive buyers when they realised you definitely do get what you pay for. In the case of the LU005, you pay virtually nothing. Guess what you get.

All that's changed with the new model. It's now double-speed and multi-session compatible, so reckon on a transfer rate of about 300K/s with an access time of 250ms. The build quality hasn't changed much, but then at this price you wouldn't expect it to. It's still an unreasonably flimsy internal drive, but it does feel a lot more solid than its cheaper predecessor, with a smoother eject and being less prone to skipping. It comes with a proprietary interface and driver software, but no other packages.

Installation is relatively easy, thanks in part to the improved manual, which now speaks English and goes into reasonable, if terse, detail. Overall, the FX001D is an excellent budget buy for the undemanding – for current applications at least, it's well up to the job. Bear it in mind if you're thinking of putting together an MPC system, but don't expect to be using the CD-ROM drive especially intensively; *Encarta* and shareware discs should be fine, but don't bank on *The 7th Guest*.

PCF Rating 74%

JARGON BUSTERS

DOUBLE-SPEED
Standard audio CDs are played at a fixed speed, 150K/s. Most drives have the capability of doubling the speed at which the CD is spun, increasing data transfer rates to 300K/s or more for the reading of computer data. More expensive drives can spin the CD at three or even four times the normal speed, so the data transfer rate approaches that of an average hard disk drive (around 700K/s).

FMV
Full Motion Video. Digitised video stored, usually, on CD-ROM. The name is actually somewhat misleading because without dedicated hardware such as a ReelMagic card the video's playback rate is generally limited to around 15fps (frames per second) in a 160x120 pixels window. (There are notable exceptions: *MegaRace* manages almost true FMV.) A film plays at 24fps.

PANASONIC CR-562/563

£163.33 (£191.53 with interface)
Evesham Micros ☎ 0386 765500



The Panasonic CR-562 kindly wrote to let us know that it couldn't make it, but sent its best wishes and luck for the future. Lovely.

THE PANASONIC HAS LONG been a popular choice in the CD drive world, partly because it's cheap and partly because the Sound Blaster Pro and various other cards can interface directly to it. You'll often find it included as part of ready-built mid-price MPC systems. A separate interface kit costs you £28.20, which nevertheless keeps the card in the same price range as the Mitsumi FX001D. It's not surprising, because there isn't much difference between them. Double-speed and multi-session compatible, the drive clocks up a standard transfer rate of 300K/s with a reasonable access time of 320ms. Installation is the same as with any other drive, as is the manual, definitely at the 'just about' end of 'adequate'.

Again, you wouldn't expect bonus software at this price, just a proprietary driver and good old MSCDEX. As a direct competitor to the Mitsumi, the CR-562 really has nothing extra to offer, except perhaps the added insurance of the Panasonic name. It's the one to go for if a) you have an SB Pro, b) you haven't much cash, and c) ...um, that's it.

PCF Rating 74%

SONY CDU33A

£151.58 (£163.33 with interface) Evesham Micros ☎ 0386 765500



Frankly we were disgusted by the Sony CDU33A's behaviour, so we locked it in a cupboard until it promised to be good.

SOMETHING OF A DISAPpointment, this. With a name such as Sony behind it you'd expect the CDU33A to be something special. Unfortunately it's only just about adequate.

There's nothing wrong with the specs – it's a double-speed multi-session drive with the usual 300K/s transfer rate and a 290ms access time. You can't fault the manual either, because it's clear and very helpful. Neither is there anything wrong with the installation procedure (the drive can interface to Sony-compatible soundcards such as the Orchid GameWave or to a proprietary interface).

No, it's the build quality that's annoying. Like the Mitsumis, the drive has no substance. The tiniest knock sends the heads spinning and the most microscopic piece of dirt on an audio CD does likewise. The eject button cannons the tray out with a force not dissimilar to a Cantona kick, and then leaves it lolling halfway as if it can't be arsed to carry on. That's why it's a surprising choice to be bundled with the ReelMagic Upgrade Kit (see page 115 for the review).

If you can live with all that, then the Sony is a reasonable budget drive for the desperate among you. It's not a first choice, though.

PCF Rating 65%

MITSUMI LU005

£137.48 Powermark ☎ 081 951 3355



Finally the LU005 slopped into view, late as usual. It tried to keep up with the rest but... *(Oh dear, last caption. Shame, that – Dan)*

POSSIBLY THE CHEAPEST drive you'll find, but don't be fooled. The LU005 is simply no good for running graphically-intensive games or other applications, because it's just not fast enough. Single-speed, with a transfer rate of 150K/s and a whopping access time of 340ms, it is however multi-session compatible, so you can at least access Photo-CDs. Whoopy-flamin'-do.

The drive feels so tacky you suspect a hard stare could easily make it skip – the tray wangs out eagerly, but then gives up halfway, just hanging there. (In fact the tray comprises the whole working part of the drive, which is clumsy design.) You can practically hear it saying "Ha! You thought you'd picked up a bargain here, didn't you mate? And now you realise the full horror of what you've done, you stingy nogoodnik." Or maybe that was just our model.

Still, an interface kit and cables are supplied, along with an almost non-existent manual. So, although it's an adequate and cheap drive for undemanding applications, such as using PhotoCDs or accessing collections of shareware, we wouldn't recommend getting one. Chances are sooner or later you'll be tempted by a swish and demanding CD title; show it to the Mitsumi and the drive'll curl up and die.

If garages gave away CD-ROM drives with every £10 of petrol you bought, they'd be Mitsumi LU005s. We think you get the idea. *(So you're not keen on it, then? – Dan)* →

PCF Rating 32%

JARGON BUSTERS

MPC/MPC2
The Multimedia PC standards 1 and 2, as defined by the Multimedia Marketing Council. See page 46 for the specs.

MULTI-SESSION
A PhotoCD disc can hold up to 100 images. You're unlikely to write all 100 images to a disc at once, so it's carried out in sessions. When, say, you store one roll of film (36 images), that's a session. The next roll is the second session, and so on. Single-session drives are only capable of reading the images stored during the first session – all other sessions are lost. Multi-session drives can find them all.

→

JARGON BUSTERS

PHOTOCD
A standard developed by Kodak for storing photographic images on CD. The pictures are taken from a standard 35mm film, processed just like any other, and stored as true colour resizeable files of an extremely high quality. To use such a disc, you need PhotoCD access software (because the files are stored in a proprietary format) and a multi-session, PhotoCD-compatible CD-ROM drive.

SCSI
Small Computer Systems Interface. A popular standard because it enables data through-put at much faster speeds than most others. SCSI devices, such as a CD-ROM drive, can be 'daisychained' together up to seven deep, all controlled by just one interface.

TRANSFER RATE
The rate at which the CD-ROM drive can read and supply data to the processor, measured in kilobytes per second (K/s). The transfer rate can vary greatly depending on what sort of accessing the drive is doing, so in general the rate is quoted as a sustained average during normal use. A double-speed drive should have a transfer rate of at least 300K/s.

READ, DIGEST, ACT

Your cut-out-and-throw-away guide to the drives reviewed.

DRIVE	NEC MULTISPIN 3XI	ORCHID CDS-3110	TOSHIBA KT3401BA/K	TOSHIBA XM4101B	MITSUMI FX001D	PANASONIC CR-562/563	SONY CDU33A	MITSUMI LU005
PRICE	£346.63	£169.94	£395.98	£245.58	£175.08	£163.33 (£191.53 with interface)	£151.58 (£163.33 with interface)	£137.48
SUPPLIER	Simply Computers ☎ 081 523 4020	Simply Computers ☎ 081 523 4020	Magic Media ☎ 081 343 9933	Simply Computers ☎ 081 523 4020	Simply Computers ☎ 081 523 4020	Evesham Micros ☎ 0386 765500	Evesham Micros ☎ 0386 765500	Powermark ☎ 081 951 3355
EXTERNAL VERSION AVAILABLE	No	No	Yes	No	No	Yes	No	No
EXTERNAL PRICE	N/A	N/A	£512.30	N/A	N/A	£244.40 (£272.60 with interface)	N/A	N/A
MAXIMUM TRANSFER RATE	450K/s	300K/s	330K/s	300K/s	300K/s	300K/s	300K/s	150K/s
MINIMUM ACCESS TIME	195ms	350ms	200ms	385ms	250ms	320ms	290ms	340ms
MULTI SESSION	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
PHOTOCD COMPATIBLE	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
MPC2 COMPATIBLE	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
SOFTWARE	None	Device drivers	Device drivers and PhotoCD demo	Device drivers	Device drivers	Device drivers	Device drivers	Device drivers
LOADING SYSTEM	Caddy	Tray	Caddy	Tray	Tray	Tray	Tray	Tray
PCF RATING	88%	82%	78%	76%	74%	74%	65%	32%

GIVE US AN M, GIVE US A P...

To be any good at all, a CD-ROM drive must be part (and meet the standards) of an overall Multimedia PC system. A set of standards were defined by Microsoft in conjunction with the Multimedia PC Marketing Council to establish exactly what constitutes an MPC.

MPC 1, the original standard, is now looking a little outdated. Briefly, its minimum specs are:

- **An 80386SX running at 16MHz, with 2Mb RAM, a 3.5-inch floppy drive and a 30Mb hard drive.**
- **A graphics display capable of 640x480 with 16 colours.**
- **An 8-bit soundcard which is capable of sampling at 22.05KHz, with audio inputs and MIDI I/O.**
- **A CD-ROM drive with a transfer rate of 150K/s and a seek time of one second.**

This spec is woefully inadequate these days, which is why the MPC 2 standard is becoming the, er, standard. Its specs are:

- **An 80486SX running at 25MHz, with 4Mb RAM, a 3.5-inch floppy as well as a 160Mb hard drive.**
- **Graphics display which can handle 640x480 with 65,536 colours.**
- **A 16-bit soundcard with at least eight simultaneous voices and MIDI playback, and a sampling rate of 44.1KHz**
- **CD-ROM drive capable of 300K/s sustained transfer rate and with an access time of 400ms or less, multi-session capabilities (important if you want to write to a photo CD more than once) and CD-ROM XA ready. (XA, for Extended Architecture, is a new format which interleaves audio with normal data, so the PC can read and play the audio, then the data, then the audio, and so on. This essentially enables the CD to be playing music and providing data at the same time.)**

Forget the original standard – many CD-ROM titles (games in particular) already need an MPC 2 machine to run. So, it's time to upgrade (again)...

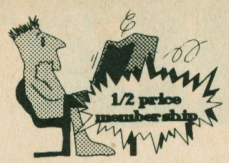
AND THE WINNER IS...

Okay, after all that, what do we recommend? Well, it depends on your budget. If you've got £200 or less to spend, have a serious look at the Orchid CDS-3110, the Panasonic CR-562 or the Mitsumi FX001D. They all have their pros and cons, so your final choice depends partly on whether or not you have already got a soundcard interface and your trust in brand-names. Above that price the choice is more clear-cut. The Toshiba KT3401, while certainly an excellent drive, is over-expensive, especially compared with the triple-speed NEC 3Xi. (Bear in mind, though, that the latter also requires a SCSI to be added in to the price.) Overall, the NEC has the edge on speed and features. You pays your money, you takes your cliché.

Thanks of a fantastically genuine nature to Simply Computers (☎ 081 523 4020) for supplying drives at extremely short notice when it all looked as if it was going wrong. Each and every person there deserves a pay rise. →

Matrix Computer Club

Hundreds of computer programs at a fraction of the price and we'll buy them back - guaranteed!



* THE LATEST & THE POPULAR FROM THE TOP PUBLISHERS * FROM BUSINESS TO LEISURE * NO COMMITMENT TO BUY * SUPER GUARANTEED PRICES * QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER WITH REVIEWS, SPECIAL OFFERS, MEMBERS SMALL ADS * FAST SERVICE * NO PREPAYMENT * ESTABLISHED 1981* OVER 3000 MEMBERS

Send S.A.E. or phone (24 hours) for full information pack. Matrix Computing Services, Dept. PCF6, 2 French's Yard, Amwell End, Ware, Hertfordshire SG12 9HP

VISA Access EUROCARD

0920 484479 - 24 hours
Now PC CD ROM!

18 ZONE

Signed age declaration required. Age can be verified against Electoral register.

1. .....PAGE 3 WOBBLEVISION II £15
2. .....BEACH BUMS (Cheeky Girls!) £15
3. .....SWIM-SUIT MAIDENS £10
4. .....PAGE 7 FELLAS £15
5. .....100 PAGE 3 GIRLS ON 10 HD DISKS £35
6. .....STOCKING FILLERS £10
7. .....ASIAN GIRLS £10
8. .....HOT SHOTS (Penthouse Style) £25

FREE! *HOT SHOTS WITH EVERY ORDER OF £60 OR OVER*

All products require 286, 386, 486 or Pentium with SVGA, Mouse, Hard Disk and are supplied on 3·5" High Density Disks.

CD ROMS – Lovers guide (oem) £26 * *Covergirl Strip Poker £36

Cheques/postal orders payable to –

SELECTIVE SHAREWARE 169 DALKEITH ROAD, DEPT PCF, EDINBURGH EH16 5BY



ORCHARD SOFTWARE

'PICK OF THE BEST'

TELEPHONE: 0279 501930 – MONDAY TO FRIDAY 9AM-7PM, SATURDAY/SUNDAY 10AM-4PM

SEND CHEQUES/P.O'S MADE PAYABLE TO ORCHARD SOFTWARE TO:

13 KINGSMEAD ROAD, BISHOPS STORTFORD, HERTS CM23 2AG

LOOK AT THESE PRICES!!!!!!

TOP TEN PC GAMES		TOP TEN CD-ROM	
1) Sim City 2000	£25·99	1) Rebel Assault	£31·99
2) Alone in the Dark 2	£31·99	2) Gabriel Knight	£30·99
3) Starlord	£28·99	3) Iron Helix	£26·99
4) Frontier – Elite 2	£25·99	4) Day of the Tentacle	£29·99
5) TFX	£28·99	5) TFX	£31·99
6) Microsoft Flight Sim v.5	£29·99	6) The Lawnmower Man	£34·99
7) Links 386 Pro	£29·99	7) The Journeyman Project	£26·99
8) Sam & Max – Hit the Road	£27·99	8) Comanche: Max Overkill	£30·99
9) Gabriel Knight	£25·99	9) 7th Guest	£35·99
10) X-Wing	£28·99	10) Microcosm	£35·99

All Prices include VAT. Please add £1 per item P&P UK Only. EEC £3 per item. Non EEC £4·50 per item.

RING 0279 501930 FOR QUOTES FOR ALL OTHER TITLES NOT LISTED ABOVE. CALL FOR FREE PRICELIST.

ALL ITEMS SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY. PRICES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE. E & O.E. PLEASE STATE FORMAT REQUIRED WHEN ORDERING.

THE ORIGINAL
THE BEST

BLASTER

THE PC SOUND STANDARD

SOUND

CREATIVE
CREATIVE LABS

Tel: 0743 248590

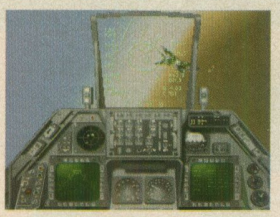
PLATTERS THAT

ENTERTAINMENT

→ STRIKE COMMANDER CD

Reviewed: PCF 30, 92% **£49.99 Origin/EA ☎ 0753 549442**

The most thrill-packed PC flight sim appears on CD with enhancements galore, and all for a bargain-basement price. The original game, the Speech Accessory Pack and the Tactical Missions scenario disk are all on the CD as you'd expect, but there's now speech throughout the game and an extra dog-fight option in the Gauntlet section. Absolutely superb.



Minimum system: *4Mb; VGA; 386; hard disk. Sound Blaster required for speech* **Optional extras:** *AdLib; Roland; joystick and a mouse*

SAM AND MAX HIT THE ROAD

Reviewed:PCF 33, 94% **£45.99 US Gold/LucasArts ☎ 021 625 3388**

The best adventure game available on any machine (and possibly the best PC game ever) gets even better with the addition of a full talking soundtrack. If the all-too-scant speech during the intro of the floppy disk version had you gasping for more, the sound of wise-cracking, sarcastic Sam and psychotic Max delivering superb comic lines in just the right way should give you spasms of delight.

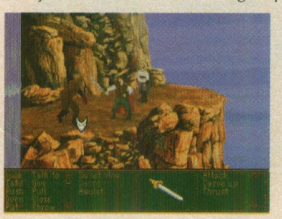


Minimum system: *640K; VGA; 286; hard disk* **Optional extras:** *2Mb EMS; AdLib; Sound Blaster; Roland; mouse*

DRAGONSPHERE

Reviewed: PCF 32, 89% **£39.99 MicroProse ☎ 0454 326532**

You'll know the CD-ROM revolution is in full swing when software houses start producing adventure games only on CD. Oh look, MicroProse has just done that with *Dragonsphere*, a mythical game set a long time ago in a land far away. An intriguing storyline, sumptuous graphics and speech throughout the game combine with non-linear gameplay to make this a real corker.

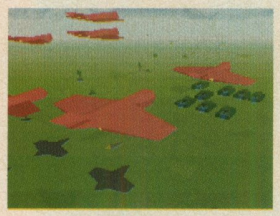


Minimum system: *2Mb; VGA; 386; hard disk; mouse. Sound Blaster required for speech* **Optional extras:** *AdLib; Roland*

BATTLE ISLE 2

Reviewed: PCF 31, 88% **£39.99 Blue Byte ☎ 0727 868005**

Of course, you don't really need a CD to play a war game, except when it's packed with rendered images, speech, a CD-quality soundtrack and hundreds of fancy 3D animations. *Battle Isle 2* is about as refined as a war game can get, and it's so seductive and easy to play that you completely forget the game's hex-based origins. This blows away any floppy-based war game.

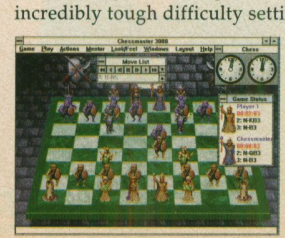


Minimum system: *4Mb; VGA; 386; hard disk. Sound Blaster required for speech* **Optional extras:** *AdLib; Roland; joystick and a mouse*

CHESSMASTER 3000 MPC PRO

Reviewed: PCF 23, 88% **£49.99 The Software Toolworks ☎ 0444 246333**

The best chess game in the world, and then some. Options galore, an enormous library of classic games to watch, excellent tutorials for beginners, incredibly tough difficulty settings for experts, and, best of all, natural language spoken help. Ask the Chessmaster for help and he tells you in English, not in some strange chess language. This makes *Chessmaster 3000 MPC Pro* the definitive chess game for all players, whatever their age or ability.

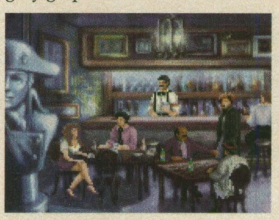


Minimum system: *2Mb; VGA; 386; hard disk; mouse; Sound Blaster; Windows 3*

GABRIEL KNIGHT

Reviewed: PCF 30, 87% **£49.99 Sierra ☎ 0734 303171**

A great example of how the massive capacity of a CD-ROM can improve a game enormously. On floppy, this is a standard Sierra adult adventure, albeit with a few gory graphics and sinister undertones. On CD, it's transformed into a cinematic experience through the use of a thoroughly professional soundtrack. 'Real' actors such as Tim Curry and Mark Hamill voice the characters, while sound effects abound.



Minimum system: *4Mb; VGA; 386; hard disk; mouse*
Optional extras: *AdLib; Sound Blaster or Roland*

MYST *Reviewed: PCF 33, 83% (see page 64)*

£39.99 EA/Broderbund ☎ 0753 549442

Following in *The 7th Guest's* footsteps but surpassing it on almost every count is this weird dream of a game. It's the first CD-ROM title to include both immaculately-rendered 3D graphics and a hefty dollop of adventure-cum-puzzle gameplay. While it's still no *Ultima 8* or *Doom* in terms of longevity, the choice of eerie, subtle music and atmospheric spot effects is terrific.

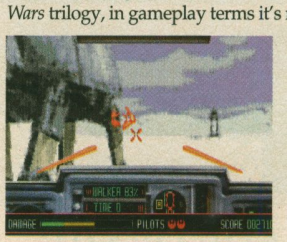


Minimum system: *4Mb; SVGA; 386DX; Windows 3.1; Windows-compatible soundcard; mouse; hard disk*

REBEL ASSAULT

Reviewed: PCF 28, 79% **£49.99 US Gold/LucasArts ☎ 021 625 3388**

Everyone should own at least one CD-ROM game which exists entirely for its presentation, if only to show off to friends. This is a fine candidate. Based on the *Star Wars* trilogy, in gameplay terms it's nothing a 10-year old couldn't handle – strictly move and shoot stuff – but the digitised video and thumping orchestral soundtrack are crying out to be gasped at. You may not be playing it in a year's time, but you'll certainly remember when you did.



Minimum system: *2Mb; VGA; 386; hard disk; mouse* **Optional extras:** *AdLib; Sound Blaster; Roland; joystick*

THE 7TH GUEST

Reviewed: PCF 22, 75% **£69.99 VIE ☎ 081 960 2255**

You have to love it, the game that persuaded more people to buy a CD-ROM drive than any other. And for good reason: never before had we seen rendered 3D graphics like these (they moved and everything!), or listened to such music. So the gameplay was... minimal, to put it kindly (table-top puzzle fare), but hey, this was the first CD game to make use of the medium, incorporating graphics, video and speech.

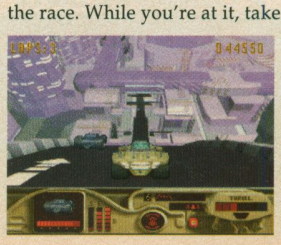


Minimum system: *2Mb; SVGA; 386DX; hard disk; mouse. Sound Blaster required for speech* **Optional extras:** *General MIDI soundcard*

MEGARACE

Reviewed: PCF 32, 74% **£39.99 The Software Toolworks ☎ 0444 246333**

Hurtle round a wide range of bizarrely beautiful rendered tracks in a futuristic race game where the aim is to shoot up the opposition and win the race. While you're at it, take time to marvel at the high-quality video that makes the most of presenter Lance Boyle's in-yer-face style. The racing gameplay leaves a tad to be desired, and is slow in parts, but it's so good-looking you can forgive it that.



Minimum system: *2Mb; VGA; 386; hard disk. Sound Blaster required for speech* **Optional extras:** *AdLib; Roland; joystick*

MATTER

There are some CD-ROM titles you just have to own, and they're the ones we've collected here.



INFOTAINMENT

ENCARTA 1994

Reviewed: PCF 30, 94% **£99 Microsoft ☎ 0734 270000**

Encarta did to serious CD software what *The 7th Guest* did to CD games: gave them a hefty kick up the arse. Microsoft didn't stop at incorporating all 29 volumes of the *Funk & Wagnalls Encyclopedia* on to one disc, it added hundreds of digitised pics, video (in the '94 edition), sound, an instant search facility, and couched the whole lot in its customary immaculate presentation. The result is a massively impressive reference disc for an amazingly cheap price.

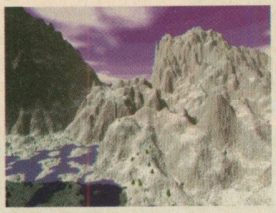


Minimum system: *4Mb; SVGA; 386SX; Windows 3.1; Windows-compatible soundcard; hard disk; mouse*

VISTAPRO 3 *Reviewed: PCF 32, 91%*

£119.95 Meridian/Virtual Reality Labs ☎ 081 543 3500

Already an endlessly fascinating title on floppy, this fractal landscape creator on CD is just perfect. The program hasn't changed – you still create photorealistic fantasy landscapes or load data from real-world locations to render – but the CD includes maps of virtually the entire United States, along with sample pics, animations and utilities. An expensive luxury, really. Watch out for a special offer on the CD in *PC FORMAT*'s Mail Order pages soon.

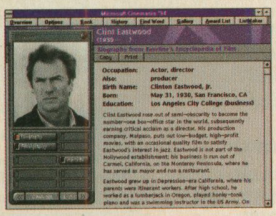


Minimum system: *4Mb; VGA; 386; mouse*
Optional extras: *hard disk*

CINEMANIA 1994

Reviewed: PCF 30, 90% **£49 Microsoft ☎ 0734 270000**

The ultimate film reference guide, no less. *Cinemania* culls 19,000 reviews from Leonard Maltin's *Movie and Video Guide*, together with Roger Ebert's *Video Companion* and Pauline Kael's *5001 Nights at the Movies*, and presents them in an easily-digestible form. There are stills from most films, and 20 video clips from greats such as *Star Wars* and, er, *Dances with Wolves*. Oh, and dialogue. And fast search facilities. And... and just go and buy it.



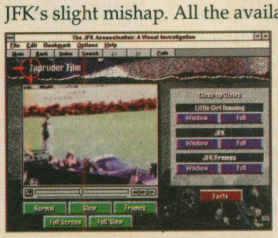
Minimum system: *2Mb; SVGA; 386; hard disk; Windows 3.1; Windows-compatible soundcard; mouse*

JFK: A VISUAL INVESTIGATION

Reviewed: PCF 31, 85%

£49.99 GEM Distribution/Medio Vision ☎ 0279 442842

An innovative and fascinating exploration of the events surrounding good ol' JFK's slight mishap. All the available film footage is included, so you can watch, freeze the frame and decide for yourself what happened. Then investigate the multitude of theories or play about with a 3D recreation of the shooting – it's your all-in-one Who Killed Johnny? kit.

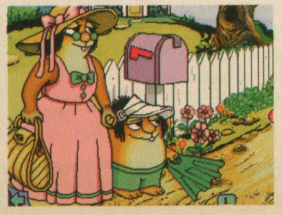


Minimum system: *2Mb; VGA; 386; hard disk; mouse; Windows 3; Windows-compatible soundcard*

JUST GRANDMA AND ME

Reviewed: PCF 18, 85% **£39.99 Electronic Arts ☎ 0753 549442**

This delightful talking book contains the grooviest two-frame animation you'll ever find. Little Critter, the story's star, introduces you to his CD and proceeds to do a funky little jig to the beat of an appropriately down-market soundtrack. There aren't quite enough pages to make the book last long enough, but the numerous animations are bound to entertain children of all ages. Full of magical charm.

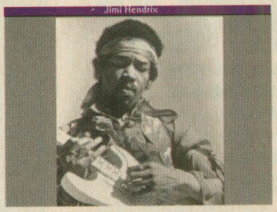


Minimum system: *4Mb; VGA; 386; hard disk; Windows 3.1; Windows-compatible soundcard; mouse*

GUINNESS DISC OF RECORDS 93

Reviewed: PCF 23, 82% **£49.99 The Software Toolworks ☎ 0444 246333**

A classic multimedia reference work with a special section devoted to crooked employees of large brewing companies who miraculously recover from diseases which were previously thought to be irreversible, thus making medical history in the process. If only that were the case. Still, satire aside, the *Guinness Disc* is great. It's packed with all manner of facts and figures, including Hendrix's expensively auctioned guitar.

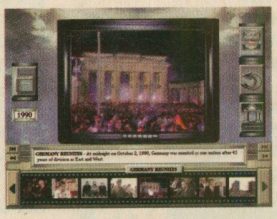


Minimum system: *4Mb; VGA; 386; hard disk; Windows 3; Windows-compatible soundcard; mouse*

20TH CENTURY VIDEO ALMANAC

Reviewed: PCF 28, 81% **£159.99 The Software Toolworks ☎ 0444 246333**

They don't come much more ambitious than this – a potted, but still very detailed, video history of the 20th century on CD. High-quality video is accompanied by informative text, which is all easily accessible thanks to a simple point-and-click control system. You can buy the basic version for £79.99, and extra modules are available from Granville Technology (☎ 0282 770066) for £29.99 each.

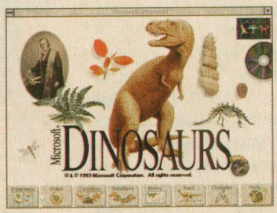


Minimum system: *1Mb; SVGA; Sound Blaster; hard disk (2Mb), and a mouse is recommended*

DINOSAURS

Reviewed: PCF 26, 79% **£45 Microsoft ☎ 0743 270000**

Yet another of Microsoft's superlative reference works, dealing with... well, you can probably guess. The highlight of the disc is a lengthy digitised clay animation of two dinos fighting. The graphics elsewhere are equally marvellous, illustrating everything you could possibly want to know about the hapless creatures. There are even a few samples of dinosaur sounds. Clever, that.



Minimum system: *4Mb; VGA; 386SX; hard disk; Windows 3.1; Windows-compatible soundcard; mouse*

ART GALLERY

Reviewed: PCF 30, 70% **£49 Microsoft ☎ 0734 270000**

What's the easiest way of getting an entire gallery inside your PC? Is it 1) Raiding the National Gallery and then using a specially invented X-ray to miniaturise the pictures before stuffing them in your system unit, or is it 2) Giving Mr Gates £50 in return for a silver disc that has high-quality reproductions of all the pictures in the British National Collection of Western European Painting, along with reams of text?



Minimum system: *4Mb; VGA; 386; hard disk; Windows 3.1; Windows-compatible soundcard; mouse*

THE INTERACTIVE LOVERS' GUIDE

Reviewed: PCF 29, 69% **£34.99 Supervision ☎ 071 702 9391**

Not particularly hot as far as quality and content goes, but *The Interactive Lovers' Guide* is a fine example of what the CD medium is capable of. A subtle blend of sex, sex and more sex – sweetened by the sugar of a strong educational content. The quality of the digitised video is hopelessly awful, but it was a good idea. Perhaps a Reel Magic full-motion, full-screen version of the program will eventually do it justice. PCF



Minimum system: *2Mb; VGA; 386; hard disk; Windows 3.1; mouse. Sound Blaster required for speech*

Power Mark®

The Media Bank at Powermark

FREE CALL
Technical Sales Order Lines
0500-600 486

ADVENTURE CD ROMS

LABYRINTH OF TIME	£25
JUTLAND	£39
DARK SUN SHATTERED LAND	£29
GOBLINS III	£32
LOST IN TIME	£35
REBEL ASSAULT (STAR WARS)	£31
GATEWAY II	£23
ALONE IN THE DARK	£29
SHADOW OF THE COMET	£29
CYBERSPACE	£31
MARIO IS MISSING	£29
LANDS OF LORE	£29
MAD DOG MACREE	£28

100s of CDs available, including Art, DTP, Image, Geography, Language and many other topics

TOP TEN

Last months best selling CD ROMS at Powermark

1.	MS Encarta	(1)
3.	MS Art Gallery	(3)
5.	MS Cinemania	(5)
6.	Rebel Assault	(6)
2.	7th Guest	(2)
4.	MS Musical Instruments	(-)
7.	MS Dinosaurs	(-)
8.	TFX	(-)
9.	Day Of The Tentacle	(9)
10.	Global Explorer	(-)

Brackets show previous position



ENTERTAINMENT CD ROMS

ADVANTAGE TENNIS	£26
AEGIS GUARDIAN OF FLEET	£42
AKIRA	£19
ANECDOTE 3	£9
BATTLE CHESS	£25
CAPITOL HILL	£27
CASTLES 2	£29
CHESSMASTER 3000	£27
CHAOS CONTROL	£Call
CONSPIRACY	£37
• Act the role of a KGB agent	
CYBER RACE	£44
DARK SEED	£31
DAY OF THE TENTACLE	£22
DEATHSTAR ARCADE	£19
DRACULA UNLEASHED	£25
DUNE	£29
• Adventure game based on the best selling Frank Herbert Novel	
DUNGEON HACK	£28
EYE OF THE BEHOLDER	£Call
GABRIEL KNIGHT	£31
HELL CAB	£56
INCA 2	£37
INDIANA JONES IV	£36
JOURNEYMAN PROJECT	£31
JURASSIC PARK	£24
KINGS QUEST VI	£31
LANDS OF LAW	£37
• A full interactive fantasy role play	
THE LAWNMOWER MAN	£35
LEGEND OF KYRANDIA	£34
• A fantasy adventue in an enchanted forest inhabited with dragons	
LEGEND OF KYRANDIA 2	£Call
LEISURE SUIT LARRY 6 (18)	£29
LIBERATION	£Call
LOOM	£38
LORD OF THE RINGS	£31
MANIAC MANSION	£39
MARIO IS MISSING DELUXE	£31
MICROCOSM	£34
MICROSOFT GOLF	£36
NICK FALDO GOLF	£28
POLICE QUEST IV	£32
• All new police adventure game	
PROTOSTAR	£27
QUANTUM GATE	£31
RETURN TO ZORK	£29
RISE OF THE ROBOTS	£42
SAM & MAX HIT THE ROAD	£Call
7TH GUEST POWERCUT!	£37
SHERLOCK HOLMES III POWERCUT!	£33
• Full-motion colour video whodunits	
SOFTWARE JUKEBOX	£34
STAR TREK	£27
STAR WORKS CHESS FOR WINDOWS	£39
STELLAR 7	£25
SUPER STRIKE COMMANDER	£29
T.F.X	£29
TORNADO	£31
UFO	£37
UNDER A KILLING MOON	£Call
WING COMMANDER 2	£31
WINTER OLYMPICS	£29
WORLD OF XEEN	£35

NEW CD ROM TITLES

A selection of the season's releases. Check availability before ordering.

MS BOOKSHELF	£69
MS DANGEROUS CREATURES	£Call
MS ANCIENT LANDS	£Call
MS MULTIMEDIA STRAUSS	£Call
COREL GALLERY	£45
• 10,000 clip art images	
MEGARACE	£29
SOFTWARE TOOLWORKS CHALLENGE PACK	£29
SIERRA GOLDEN 7	£29
WOLFPACK	£19
WINTER OLYMPICS	£32
FOREVER GROWING GARDEN	£35
MOVIE MADNESS	£35
JFK ASSASINATION	£35
BENEATH A STEEL SKY	£34
A MILLION LAUGHS	£28
SUPERSONIC	£47
250 MUSIC CLIPS	£29
1000 SOUND EFFECTS	£29
IRON HELIX	£28
MAP VISION	£155
STREET MART	£155
MANAGING YOUR BOSS	£22
MAKING TIME	£22
HOLLYWOOD CLASSICS	£27
OCEANS BELOW	£25
SPACE IN MOTION	£25
SPACE (PSYGNOSIS)	£26
GROLLIER V.6	£149
MURMURS OF EARTH	£29
CREATION STORIES	£34
ALPHABET BLOCKS	£29
FUNNY: THE MOVIE IN QUICKTIME	£34
ANIMAL ALPHABET	£34
20TH CENTURY (5 DISK SET)	£112
LOVERS GUIDE (18)	£28
HUMANS 1 & 2	£28
DIGITAL LOVE	£19
WALKTHROUGHS & FLYBYS	£25
THE PICTURE LIBRARY	£28
CREATION STORIES	£34
• Scientific theories and legends of the Earth's Creation	
MICROSOFT ART GALLERY	£33

NEW!

COREL CD POWER PACK

£49

NEW! • Speed up your CD ROM drive with caching software

10 CD ROMs for £35!

Doom, Stellar 7, KQ5, World Fact Book, World Atlas, PC Karaoke Classics, Animation Festival, Media Clips, Time Man Of The Year, CD ROM of CD ROMs - **All for £35**

MISCELLANEOUS CD ROMS

SPACE SHUTTLE	£37
SPACE ADVENTURE	£49
HUTCHINSONS MULTIMEDIA ENCYCLOPAEDIA	£68
• The first British multimedia encyclopaedia	
MACMILLAN'S DICTIONARY FOR CHILDREN	£33
MICROSOFT POWERCUT! ENCARTA 1994	£69
• 28 volume encyclopaedia	

BARGAIN BASEMENT

CHERRY KEYBOARD	£27
MOUSE - MS compatible, with Mousemat	£8
TRIGENT 1MB SVGA CARD	£49
PANASONIC 562 - CD ROM bare drive (limited stocks)	£129

MUSIC & CINEMA CD ROMS

NEW! MATINEE	£27
• Screen saver for Windows featuring movie shots and MPC sounds	
NEW! A HARD DAY'S NIGHT	£35
• The entire Beatles 90 minute film in a small window with scrolling script and press articles	
NEW! THE MUSICAL WORLD OF PROFESSOR PICCOLO	£39
ROGER EBERTS MOVIE COMPANION	£28
MICROSOFT CINEMANIA 1994	£31
• 19,000 capsule reviews	
• 3000 biographies and photographs	
• 754 detailed reviews and movie stills	
JAZZ	£49
MICROSOFT MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS	£32
GROOVES	£77
• 100 clips of high quality musical accompaniment	
MICROSOFT MOZART	£31
MICROSOFT STRAVINSKY	£31
MICROSOFT SCHUBERT	£31
MICROSOFT BEETHOVEN	£31
• An in-depth analysis of each movement of the Ninth Symphony	
• Musical knowledge quiz	
INTRODUCTION TO CLASSICAL MUSIC	£79
COMPOSER QUEST	£49
MPC WIZARD	£10
SOUNDWORKS	£25

CD ROM ACCESSORIES

Quality Disk Caddy	£5
10 Pack	£45
CD ROM Drive Laser Cleaner	£24
CD ROM Disk Cleaner Kit	£19
Refills for above	£6
CD Tower Storage Unit	£19

FREE CD!

when you buy any CD ROM drive

Choose from these titles:

Jets & Props, World View, Deathstar Arcade Battles, Wild Places, Legend Of Kyrandia, Oceans Below, World Music Sampler

Or

Take any 3 of these CD ROMs for £35

TOSHIBA CD ROM DRIVES

3401 INTERNAL	£259
3401 EXTERNAL	£375
• 200ms access time	
• Dual speed	
• Multisession and Photo CD compatible	
• Requires SCSI host adapter	
Audio leads	£5
Photo CD Software	£29
4101 INTERNAL	£199
4101 EXTERNAL	£279
• 385ms access time	
• Dual speed	
• Multisession	
• Requires SCSI host adapter	

COMING SOON...

DRAGONSPHERE, NOMAD, ADDICTION, CHAMP MAN , MARCO POLO, INSECT ADVENTURE, 10 YEAR CD, ARMAETH, BBC MATCH OF THE DAY, LITIL DIVIL, SIM CITY, 7TH SWORD OF MENDOR, BATTLE ISLE 2, ASSASIN, HEIMDALL II, ALONE IN THE DARK II, ISHAR 3, RAVENLOFT, SIM ANT

SCSI CONTROLLERS

STANDARD AT KIT - INTERNAL	£49
EXTERNAL	£59
ADVANCED AT 16BIT KIT - INTERNAL	£119
EXTERNAL	£129
MCA KIT - INTERNAL	£109
- EXTERNAL	£119
PARALLEL TO SCSI KIT	£74
EZ-SCSI V.2 SOFTWARE	£58

CALL 0500 600 486 IF THE CD ROM YOU REQUIRE IS NOT LISTED HERE

CALL 0500 600 486 IF THE PRODUCT YOU REQUIRE IS NOT LISTED HERE

VAT at 17.5% will be added to all prices

The Media Bank at Powermark

CREATIVE LABS FEATURE

SOUNDBLASTER CARDS

SOUNDBLASTER V.2 DELUXE POWERCUT! **£43**
- Includes Indy 500 and Lemmings

SOUNDBLASTER PACK £84
Includes SoundBlaster V.2 Deluxe, amplified speakers, joystick and bundled software.

SOUNDBLASTER PRO BASIC £59

WAVEBLASTER £125
- Add-on daughterboard for SoundBlaster 16
- Sound Read Only Memory
- 213 DC quality musical instrument sounds
- Presets include 128 instruments, 18 drum kits, 50 sound effects

NEW! **SOUNDBLASTER 16 AWE 32 £199**



ALL OUR PRODUCTS ARE 100% COMPATIBLE AND COME WITH A MINIMUM 12 MONTH GUARANTEE



MidiBlaster

SOUNDBLASTER PRO DELUXE £75
- 20 voice enhanced 4-operator FM synthesiser
- Stereo recording for line-in and CD-audio
- Digital and analogue mixer
- Full software control of fade-in, fade-out, pan, volume, left/right steering and microphone mixing
- Includes Indy 500, Lemmings, MPC Encyclopaedia on CD ROM



SoundBlaster 16 ASP MULTICD

VIDEO BOARDS

NEW! **CREATIVE LABS VIDEOBLASTER SE £209**
- Displays full-motion, digital video in a moveable, sizeable window
- Includes MS Video for Windows, Aldus Photostyler and JPEG
- Overlays computer text and graphics on video

VIDEOSPIGOT POWERCUT! **£194**
- Video capture card giving full motion video in real time at up to 30 frames per second
- Includes Microsoft Video for Windows

TV CODER POWERCUT! **£117**
- Use your TV as a monitor
- Flicker-free display
- Converts SVGA to composite video and SVHS
- VideoBlaster interface
- TV Panel software included

FREE CALL
Technical Sales Order Lines
0500-600 486

SOUNDBLASTER 16 BASIC £105

SOUNDBLASTER 16 ASP MULTICD £159
- 16-bit stereo sampling and playback MultiCD
- 20-voice enhanced 4-operator stereo FM-synthesiser
- CD ROM interface for Panasonic, Mitsumi and Sony CD ROM drives
- Stereo recording for line-in and CD-audio
- Full duplex MIDI interface
- Expansion for PCM wave table synthesiser
- Digital and analogue mixer

SOUNDBLASTER PRO DELUXE PACK £139
Pack includes SoundBlaster Pro card, dynamic microphone, amplified speakers, joystick, 1 in/1 out MIDI interface, MIDIsoft Recording Session software and bundled CD ROM software.

SOUNDBLASTER 16 ASP SCSI £169
- 16-bit real time compression/decompression in hardware
- 20 voice enhanced 4 operator stereo synthesiser
- Joystick port
- Bundled software included
- Supports SCSI I & II
- Includes EZ-SCSI software

MIDIBLASTER £159
- For amateur and professional music composition and presentation
- 20 polyphonic sounds and drums
- 16 channels, 128 preset sounds, 33 preset effects, 55 preset drums
- Bundled software

BSI REGISTERED FIRM — NATIONAL ACCREDITATION OF CERTIFICATION BODIES

Certificate no. FS 26535
BS5750 registered for the supply of computer, printer and workstation memory, processor and other upgrades.

Powermark plc is regularly assessed by the British Standard Institute to ensure compliance with the quality standard.

FREECALL 0500 600 486 IF THE UPGRADE YOU REQUIRE IS NOT LISTED HERE

MULTIMEDIA KITS

DISCOVERY PACK INTERNAL £434
- Panasonic CR563 multispin/twinspeed internal CD ROM drive
- SoundBlaster Pro 16
- Pro Digital speakers
- Microphone
- Bundled software included

DISCOVERY PACK EXTERNAL £459
- As above but with external drive

PROFESSIONAL PACK INTERNAL £434
- Panasonic CR563 multispin/twinspeed CD ROM drive
- SoundBlaster Pro 16
- Pro Digital speakers
- Microphone
- Bundled software included

PROFESSIONAL PACK EXTERNAL £459
- As above but with external drive

SOUNDBLASTER CD 16 £415
- Includes SoundBlaster Pro 16, Double Speed multisession internal CD ROM drive, amplified speakers and top selling CD titles

DELIVERY CHARGES

UK Mainland: Next working day courier delivery to your door: only £7 per order (£5 per CD ROM software order)

Europe: 2 day delivery to your door: Call

Power Mark®

HUGE STOCKS
Guaranteed same day despatch on virtually all orders placed even up to 5.30pm.

TECHNICAL SALES PEOPLE
Our sales people are the best. They are trained specialists in their chosen field - multimedia, memory of all types and mass storage.

TESTED PRODUCTS
We only supply products from leading manufacturers. Powermark plc is the only BS5750 upgrade reseller.

TECHNICAL SUPPORT
Dedicated after sales technical support teams on line to help with installation.

CORPORATE & PUBLIC SECTOR ACCOUNTS
We welcome orders from corporate, education and public sector organisations. Just fax or phone your order number.

Use the red border to find these pages easily

14 DAY MONEY BACK GUARANTEE
Items must be returned (with a returns number from Powermark Customer Service) in "as new" condition for a full refund (excluding carriage). Not valid for opened floppy disk based software.

TURN THE PAGE FOR MORE

INSTALLATION SERVICE
While-you-wait and on-site installation services available. Call for details.

PERSONAL CALLERS VERY WELCOME
Save on delivery charges - there's plenty of parking. Telephone first to check our stock position on the items you want. We're also open on Saturdays from 9.30am to 4.00pm.

Powermark plc
Premier House,
112 Station Road, Edgware,
Middlesex HA8 7AQ
Tel: 081-951 3355
(50 lines)
Fax: 081 905 6233

VISA Access SWITCH DELTA

CALL 0500 600 486 IF THE UPGRADE YOU REQUIRE IS NOT LISTED HERE

Power Mark®

The Media Bank at Powermark

PROCESSOR UPGRADE FEATURE

FREE CALL
Technical Sales Order Lines
0500-600 486

PROCESSOR UPGRADE EXPERTS AVAILABLE FOR SPECIALIST ADVICE

Cyrix®

THE NEW CYRIX 386 TO 486 PROCESSOR UPGRADE

Just when you thought you were up to speed, technology changes. Today's system software puts more demands on your PC. Advanced applications, multimedia and graphics further drain your system's performance.
To keep up you could dispose of your 386 computer in favour of a new 486 model.

Or you could take the smarter, more cost effective option.

Plug in the new Cyrix 386 to 486 Processor Upgrade. It's the fastest, most cost effective way to a 486 computer and its totally compatible with the world's leading software: DOS, Windows and OS/2 operating systems.

The upgrade is based on Cyrix's enhanced Cx486 technology. With it's clock doubling feature, the processor effectively doubles your computer's internal microprocessor speed and without any modifications to your system. You also get performance enhancements such as 1K on-chip cache, fast I/O, and single cycle instruction execution. These features can boost application performance by up to 70%.

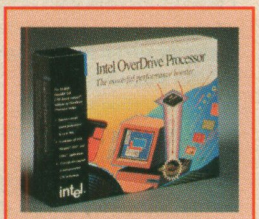
Its easy to install. Just remove your existing processor with the tool provided, clip in the Cyrix processor and load the cache installation software. It's as simple as that. You're ready to run in minutes.



The Cyrix Upgrade Microprocessor Family

386DX	**DRx² 16MHz to 486 32MHz**	£195
	DRx² 20MHz to 486 40MHz	£235
	DRx² 25MHz to 486 50MHz	£265
	LOWER PRICES!	
386SX	**SRx² 16MHz to 486 32MHz**	£175 ~~£235~~
	SRx² 20MHz to 486 40MHz	£175 ~~£235~~
	SRx² 25MHz to 486 50MHz	£195 ~~£265~~

intel®



Intel OverDrive

INTEL OVERDRIVE

- Upgrades 486SX and DX systems to DX2 performance
- Easy to install single chip upgrade
- Lifetime warranty
- Improves system performance up to 70%
- Fully compatible with DOS, Windows, OS/2 and UNIX

INTEL 486 20MHz - SX40MHz DX £219.00
INTEL 486 25MHz - SX50MHz DX £259.00
INTEL 486 25MHz DX - 50MHz DX £259.00
INTEL 486 33MHz DX - 66MHz DX £379.00

NEC FEATURE

TURN THE PAGE FOR MORE MULTIMEDIA

NEC CD ROM DRIVES

NEW! NEC 3Xi

- Triple speed internal drive
- MPC I & II formats
- New loading mechanism
- 256K cache
- 195ms access time

NEC 3Xi £299
NEC 3Xi WITH ISA KIT £353
NEC 3Xi WITH ADVANCED ISA KIT £443

NEW! NEC 3Xe

- Triple speed external drive
- MPC I & II formats
- New loading mechanism
- 256K cache
- 195ms access time

NEC 3Xe £369
NEC 3Xe WITH ISA KIT £412
NEC 3Xe WITH ADVANCED ISA KIT £508


NEC MultiSpin 3Xe

NEC CD ROM DRIVES

NEW! NEC MULTISPIN 2Xi

- Double speed multisession internal drive
- 320ms average access time
- 256K continuous flow cache memory
- Dust door and auto lens cleaning

NEC 2Xi £189
NEC 2Xi WITH ISA KIT £239

NEC

CALL 0500 600 486 IF THE UPGRADE YOU REQUIRE IS NOT LISTED HERE


NEC MultiSpin 3XP

NEC CD ROM DRIVES

NEW! NEC MULTISPIN 4X PRO

- Quad speed external drive
- 600K/sec sustained data transfer
- 180ms average access time
- 256K continuous flow cache memory
- Full function control panel
- Dust door and auto lens cleaning

NEC 4X PRO £639
NEC 4X PRO WITH ISA KIT £699
NEC 4X PRO WITH ADVANCED ISA KIT £799

NEC MULTISPIN 3XP

- Portable triple speed drive
- 450K/sec sustained data transfer
- 250ms average access time
- Full function control panel

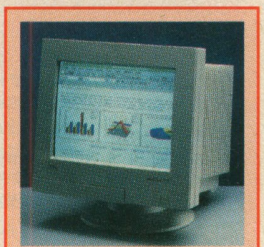
NEC 3XP £319
NEC 3XP WITH ISA KIT £369
NEC 3XP WITH ADVANCED ISA KIT £459
NEC 3XP WITH PARALLEL TO SCSI KIT £390

MULTIMEDIA EXPERTS AVAILABLE FOR SPECIALIST ADVICE

NEC MONITORS

NEC MULTISYNC 3FG £357

- 15" CRT
- Unlimited colours
- 1024 x 768 resolution
- Complies with all EEC health and safety regulations
- 0.28mm dot pitch
- Horizontal synchronisation 31.5KHz to 38KHz
- Vertical synchronisation 55Hz to 90Hz


NEC MultiSync 3FG

NEW! NEC MULTISYNC 3V £389

- 15" FST with FullScan, Provides 29% more image area than standard 14" CRTs
- Low radiation
- Intelligent Power Management in accordance with VESA specifications

CALL 0500 600 486 IF THE UPGRADE YOU REQUIRE IS NOT LISTED HERE

Media Bank at Powermark

MITSUMI CD ROM DRIVES

COMPATIBILITY WARNING
The Mitsumi LU005 CD ROM drive is not fast enough for some graphics intensive programs to run effectively. e.g. 7th Guest.

- Multisession Photo CD compatible
- 340ms access time
- Includes cards, cables & software
- Tray loading
- UK model - not imported

MITSUMI LU005 INTERNAL POWERCUT! £89
With Photo CD software £147

MITSUMI FX001D £159
- Double speed internal drive
- 250ms access time
- 64K buffer
- Motorised tray

SOUND BOARD HARDWARE

ANALOGUE 'Y' CABLE	£8
MIDI ADAPTER 1	£21
MIDI ADAPTER 5 DELUXE	£75
LAPEL MICROPHONE	£7
DESK MICROPHONE	£9
HEADPHONES POWERCUT!	£7
'PROFESSIONAL' HEADPHONES	£19
ORCHID SCSI CHIP KIT	£22
YAMAHA HELLO! MUSIC!	£359
YAMAHA KEYBOARD FOR ABOVE	£289
GOODMANSACTIVE 75	£65

- 80 Watts power output
- Controls for volume, bass, treble

FREE!

CLIP-O-MATIC PAPER CLIP DISPENSER SHIPPEDWITH EVERY 16 BIT SOUND BOARD
(While stocks last)



SOUND BOARD SOFTWARE

SOUNDBLASTER DEVELOPERS KIT	
MS DOS	£48
MS Windows V.3	£48
CREATIVE VOICE EDITOR	£37
TETRA COMPOSITOR	£54
MIDISOFT STUDIO FOR WINDOWS	£133
MIDISOFT RECORDING SESSION	£55
WAVE FOR WINDOWS	£79
EZSOUNDFX	£39
VOICE ASSIST	£59
NEW! MICROSOFT WINDOWS SOUND SYSTEM	£47
MIDISOFT SOUND IMPRESSION FOR WINDOWS	£45
MIDISOFT MENTOR	£77
MIDISOFT MULTIMEDIA MUSIC LIBRARY V.2	£39

VAT at 17.5% will be added to all prices

SOUND BOARDS

ORCHID SOUND PRODUCER £42
- Includes speakers
- SoundBlaster compatible

ORCHID SOUND PRODUCER PRO £76
- Includes microphone & speakers
- Controls for bass, treble, fade, etc

SOUNDWAVE 32 £156
- Includes Zool, speakers and bundled software
- True 16-bit stereo using using Roland chip set
- Supports Mitsumi and Sony CD ROM drives

GAMEWAVE 32 POWERCUT! £125
- Same as Soundwave 32 but without Zool

GRAVIS ULTRASOUND POWERCUT! £118
- CD quality sound
- 32 digital audio voices
- 16 stereo digital voices

LOGITECH SOUNDMAN 16 £115
- 16 Bit CD audio stereo soundcard
- Yamaha OPL-3 chip with 20 voices

ADLIB GOLD £99
- CD quality sound
- CD ROM & surround sound upgrade options

MICROSOFT SOUND SYSTEM £115

PORTABLE SOUND PLUS £149

MEMORY

1M x 1 - 70ns DRAM	£4.42
256 x 4 - 70ns DRAM	£4.98
1M x 9 - 70ns SIMM	£32
4M x 9 - 70ns SIMM	£125

Powermark supply memory, processor and hard disk upgrades for most PCs.

JOYSTICKS

YOKE	£23
YOKE PRO (New G Force model)	£36
VIRTUAL YOKE	£58
FREEFLIGHT JOYSTICK	£33
GRAVIS ANALOGUE STICK	£27
LOGIPAD CONTROLLER	£19
TORNADO	£11
DUAL XT/AT GAMES CARD POWERCUT!	£9

BEWARE

Beware of major incompatibility between CD ROM drives and sound cards. Powermark's specialists will 'multi-match' for you.

Prices and products are subject to change and availability.
All trademarks & tradenames are the property of their respective manufacturers /owners.

SPEAKERS

Quality speakers supplied as matched pairs

POWERSOUND SP10	£9
POWERSOUND DELUXE SP20	£19
• Quality PC style active speakers	
POWERSOUND MAX SP30	£29
ZY-FI PRO SPEAKERS	£48
• 15 Watts per channel	
• Built-in power amplifier	
AR PARTNER AV22	£47
AR PARTNER AV42	£78
ALTEC ACS50	£79
LABTEC CS-150	£17
• Micro stereo speakers	

DELIVERY CHARGES

UK Mainland:
Next working day courier delivery to your door: only £7 per order (£5 per CD ROM software order)

Europe:
2 day delivery to your door: Call

BSI REGISTERED FIRM — NATIONAL ACCREDITATION OF CERTIFICATION BODIES

Certificate no. FS 26535
BS5750 registered for the supply of computer, printer and workstation memory, processor and other upgrades.

Powermark plc is regularly assessed by the British Standard Institute to ensure compliance with the quality standard.

TELEPHONE DIRECTORY

FREE CALL

TECHNICAL SALES ORDER LINES
0500-600 486
AFTER SALES TECHNICAL SUPPORT
081-905 7711
CUSTOMER SERVICE
081-905 7700

FLIGHT DECK

Broaden your Flight Simulator horizons from the widest range of advanced interface controls, scenery disks & books. Commercial pilot available for specialist advice.

POWERPORT 1 POWERCUT!	£9
• XT/AT Games Card	
POWERPORT 2 POWERCUT!	£34
• PS/2 MCA Games Card	
FLY ON INSTRUMENTS (Book)	£14
MICROSOFT FLIGHT SIMULATOR V.5	£25
MICROSOFT AIRCRAFT & SCENERY DESIGNER	£22
FS SOUND & GRAPHICS UPGRADE POWERCUT! Fly Concorde!	£18
AIR TRANSPORT PILOT II	£29
AIRCRAFT & ADVENTURE FACTORY POWERCUT!	£5
SUB LOGIC FULL WEST USA	£57
NEW! SUB LOGIC EAST & WEST USA & AIR TRANSPORT PILOT ON CD ROM	£59
SUB LOGIC EUROPE	£13
SUB LOGIC GREAT BRITAIN	£25
FLIGHT SIMULATIONS NORTH ENGLAND	£25
GEMINI SCOTLAND	£29
GEMINI S.W. ENGLAND	£27
GEMINI S.E. ENGLAND	£29
MS Flight Simulator V.5 Scenery	
SAN FRANCISCO	£19
WASHINGTON	£19
MS NEW YORK	£16
MS PARIS	£16

Power Mark®

HUGE STOCKS
Guaranteed same day despatch on virtually all orders placed even up to 5.30pm.

TECHNICAL SALES PEOPLE
Our sales people are the best. They are trained specialists in their chosen field - multimedia, memory of all types and mass storage.

TESTED PRODUCTS
We only supply products from leading manufacturers. Powermark plc is the only BS5750 upgrade reseller.

CORPORATE & PUBLIC SECTOR ACCOUNTS
We welcome orders from corporate, education and public sector organisations. Just fax or phone your order number.

Use the red border to find these pages easily

14 DAY MONEY BACK GUARANTEE
Items must be returned (with a returns number from Powermark Customer Service) in "as new" condition for a full refund (excluding carriage). Not valid for opened floppy disk based software.

PERSONAL CALLERS VERY WELCOME
Save on delivery charges - there's plenty of parking. Telephone first to check our stock position on the items you want. We're also open on Saturdays from 9.30am to 4.00pm.

Powermark plc
Premier House,
112 Station Road, Edgware,
Middlesex HA8 7AQ
Tel: 081-951 3355
(50 lines)
Fax: 081 905 6233

To: Powermark plc, Premier House, 112 Station Road, Edgware, Middlesex HA8 7AQ. **Please rush me:**

Qty	Description	Price
		£
		£
		£
		£

I enclose a cheque for £ _____ payable to Powermark plc + Carriage £ 7.00 / 5.00*
(Please write your guarantee card number on the reverse of the cheque) + 17.5% VAT £
or debit my Mastercard/Visa TOTAL £
Number _____ Expires ___/___

Please send me your latest information pack ☐ *£5.00 carriage for CD ROM software

Name _____ Company _____
Address _____
_____ Postcode _____
Telephone _____ My computer is a _____

VISA Access SWITCH DELTA

Powermark and the Powermark logo are registered trademarks of Powermark plc.
© Cardinal Publicity Ltd

GAMEPLAY

Reviewed this month

85 Battles of Time
87 Corridor 7
84 Dark Seed (CD)
79 Diggers
81 Evasive Action
90 F1
88 First Samurai
88 Grand Prix Unlimited
88 Great Courts 2
75 The Lawnmower Man (CD)
88 Links
64 Myst (CD)
60 Pacific Strike
85 Ravenloft
82 Red Hell
74 Sam and Max Hit the Road (CD)
68 The Settlers
84 Star Trek: 25th Anniversary CD
71 Starlord
76 UFO: Enemy Unknown
85 The Ultimate Trivia CD
87 Wolfenstein 3D

The *PCF* Review Policy

PC FORMAT prides itself on providing the best buying advice in the business. We consider 50% to be a strict average – it's a considerable achievement for a game to score in the 80s, and last month, *Pagan* was only the tenth game in 32 issues to score more than 90%. We only review finished games, which means the game we rate is the one you buy – we never make exceptions for unfinished, bug-ridden software.

The *PCF* rating box

Minimum system
Tells you the bare-bones system required to run the game – the amount of RAM required, the lowest display type supported, the minimum processor and the hard disk space required.

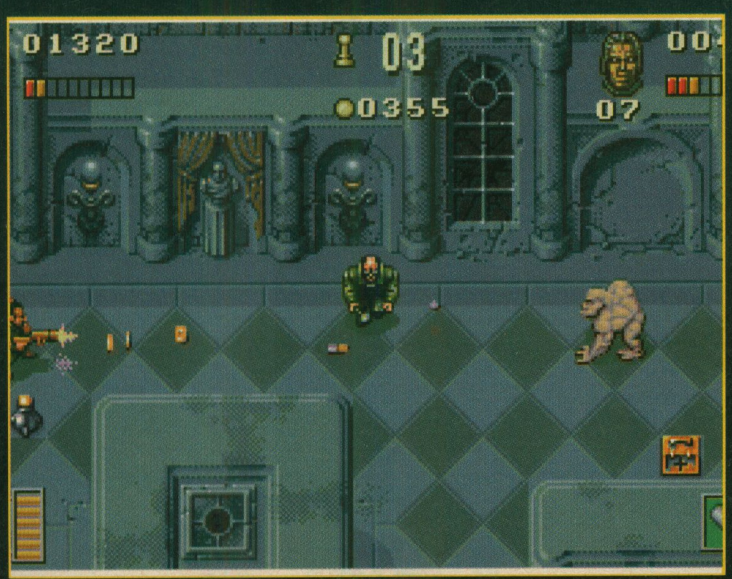
Optional extras
Tells you which of the major soundcards are supported, whether the game has an SVGA mode, and whether you can use a joystick or a mouse.



Things Not To Do in *Pacific Strike*, Number 1: attempt to land your plane in a lateral position on the deck of an enemy carrier.

Game Preview

The PC has been bereft of good quality shoot-'em-ups for far too long, but, as Richard Longhurst finds out, that's all about to change now that the Bitmap Brothers have finally finished *Chaos Engine*.



It's the best version of *The Chaos Engine* yet, but then it should be, having been so long in coming. Will it be such a huge hit on the PC as on the

Chaos Engine

£32.99 ■ Due out June ■ Renegade ☎ 071 481 9214

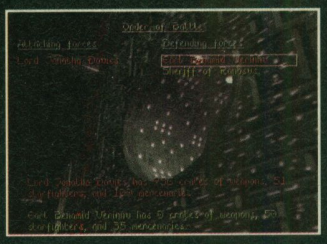
Eric Matthews, one of the three self-styled Bitmap Brothers (the good-looking one, as it happens), says that the long wait for *The Chaos Engine* on the PC has been because the team have been busy refining the game's level design to make it an even better blast than the one that originally appeared on the Amiga. And this isn't some second-rate port direct from the Amiga – the PC version of *The Chaos Engine* has been twiddled, tweaked and otherwise



(Left) It's *The Lawnmower Man*, which features, er, a lawnmower man. Well, a man with a lawnmower in his mouth, at least.





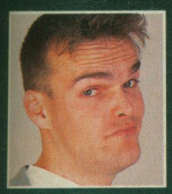


(Top) Much anarchic alien annihilation in *UFO*.

(Top left) *The* Settlers display their knack for knocking up.

(Left) Hole-entering action abounds in *Starlord*.

Revealed! Where have our reviewers appeared recently?



RICHARD LONGHURST

"Video copies of my infamous appearance on *Keynotes* are available. But not from me."

Game of the Month: *The Settlers*



JAMES BINNS

"I like to think I appear nightly in the dreams of all those luuurvly laydeez out there. I *like* to think that, but frankly..."

Game of the Month: *The Settlers*



JONATHAN DAVIES

"I try not to appear at all if I can possibly help it. I find keeping out of the way is much less stressful, on the whole."

Game of the Month: *Starlord*



ROB PEGLEY

"I'm currently appearing in panto at Scarborough. It's an adaptation of something called *Schindler's List*. Heard of it?"

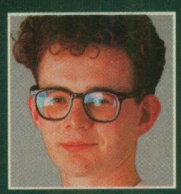
Game of the Month: *Pacific Strike*



ED RICKETTS

"I once appeared in a film about factory farming when I was ten, believe it or not. The way they treat those factories is inhuman."

Game of the Month: *Sam and Max Hit the Road CD*



CAM WINSTANLEY

"If I could just have my way I'd be appearing in the next four major land-battles to happen in Europe. You can but dream."

Game of the Month: *Pacific Strike*



The game, like many before it, involves running about firing big guns. But the good bit is...



...that in this game the monsters fight back with intelligence. None of that "queuing to be shot"...



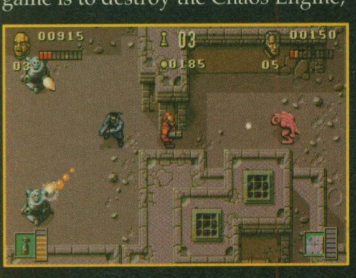
...these ones hire a crack group of trained killers to do it for them while they're down the pub.

souped-up to take advantage of the PC's superior power.

Of course, one thing that hasn't changed is the guns-'n'-glory plot, which is set, slightly inappropriately, in Victorian times. The aim of the game is to destroy the Chaos Engine, a steam-powered computer that has malfunctioned and started to warp the countryside around it. Your pair of mercenaries (who can be controlled by you and a friend, or you and your PC) have to fight their way through four worlds, each containing four vast levels, in an effort to blow up the eponymous machine. The mercenaries earn money depending on how many monsters they shoot, and at certain stages during the game you can upgrade your characters' attributes (strength and intelligence) and weapons. As you'd expect from a top-notch blaster, the game's crammed with secret levels, collectibles, power-ups, bonuses, and, most importantly, guns.

With so much on-screen action, it's important not to sacrifice the speed of the gameplay for the sake of a few fancy effects. Eric Matthews says that on the PC the game takes a look at your processor and graphics card to automatically work out the best speed at which to run. The game now runs in 256 spectacular colours, and the status bar at the bottom of the screen has been taken out, which gives you the benefit of glorious full-screen graphics.

One of the advantages of having the PC version converted after other versions of the game (*The Chaos Engine* has appeared on Amiga, ST, SNES and Mega Drive) is that the Bitmap Brothers could draw on their experiences on other formats to make *The Chaos Engine* on the PC the best version of all. As Eric Matthews says, "As you do all the different versions, you just keep refining it... The last is the best because you've resolved all the design problems." PCF



It's not all violence. Around 99% of it is, but there is some key-collecting and mindless panicking to be done.



Plus of course the unending pleasure of shooting your fellow players in the back while you grab the loot.

A terrible wind that robs people of speech, reason and memory.

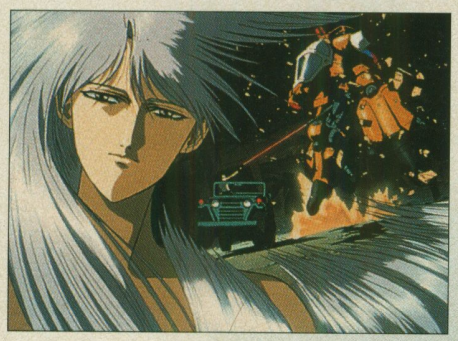
One lonely survivor of the holocaust who has to re-educate the human race.

Add the Manga effect.

And the result is THE WIND OF AMNESIA

The Manga effect can also be seen in

THE MERMAID FOREST,



part of the Rumik World collection from one of Japan's most successful adventure writers, Rumiko Takahashi. A tale of hideous medical experiments, torture and grave-robbing.



And DANGAIOH –

A magnificent inter-stellar sci-fi animation which brilliantly portrays the battle between good and evil, in an epic adventure of mecha, androids and transformers.

EXPECT THE UNEXPECTED

MANGA



Price £12.99 SRP

AVAILABLE FROM

VIRGIN, HMV, WH SMITH, OUR PRICE, JOHN MENZIES, GAME LTD, FUTURE ZONE, WOOLWORTH, TOWER RECORDS, FORBIDDEN PLANET, BEATTIES OF LONDON, VIRTUAL REALITY AND ALL GOOD VIDEO AND COMIC SHOPS.



Price £8.99 SRP



Price £12.99 SRP

漫 MANGA VIDEO 画

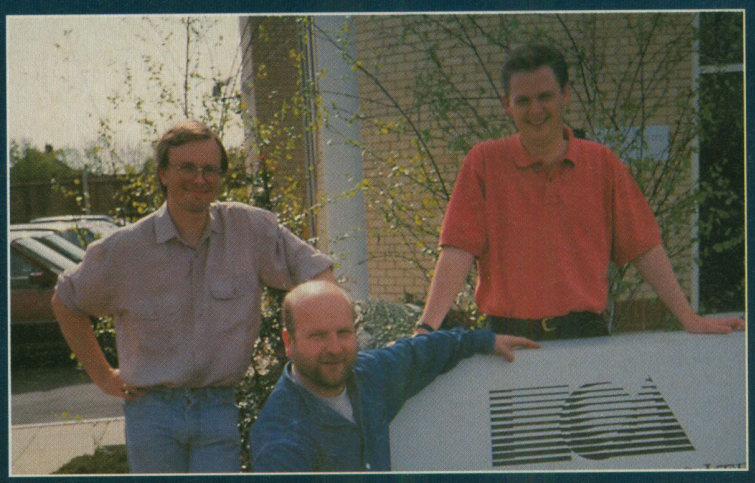
A Division of Manga Entertainment Limited
An Island International Company

FIFA International Soccer

£44.99 ■ Due out in July ■ Electronic Arts ☎ 0753 549442

Game Preview

The biggest-selling game on the Mega Drive in 1993 finally makes it to the PC. James Binns takes a sneak peak at the potential number one soccer sim.



Three top footy lads, from left to right: lead programmer Tim Ansell, producer Kevin Buckner and EA public relations man, Nick Channon.

Back in December 1993, a soccer game came out for the Mega Drive. To say that it was a success would be something of an insult. The game was huge. Within two weeks every shop in the country had sold out, leaving the shelves empty for three months while new carts were flown. Now, *FIFA International Soccer* is coming to the PC.



The goalie fails to get a hand to it and the boys in red equalise.

Electronic Arts began programming *FIFA* for the PC back in December. This is only the third format that the game has been programmed for (a version was recently launched for the Super Nintendo and work has begun on an Amiga edition). Producer for the project, Kevin Buckner, is an industry old-timer, who left MicroProse just over a year ago to join EA. As well as looking after the original Mega Drive version, he has also overseen some of the most prestigious projects ever to come out for the PC. Notches on his belt include most of the Bullfrog products, particularly *Syndicate*, and most recently the eagerly awaited *Theme Park*. The code is being written by development team, The Creative Assembly. Lead programmer Tim Ansell, whose most recent project was the PC conversion of *Microcosm*, has been in the industry for over eight years, developing for formats as diverse as the Spectrum and the FM Towns and for a myriad of firms including Mastertronic and Rainbird (do you remember them?).

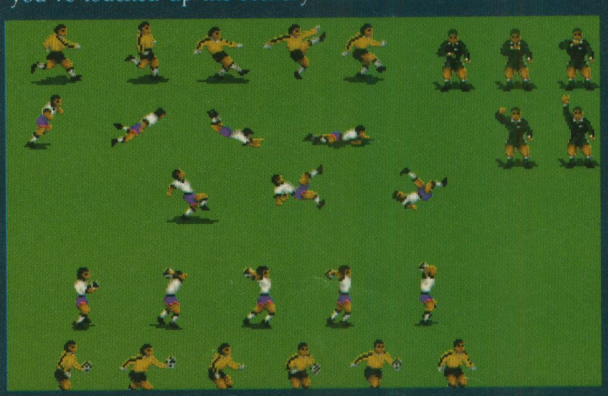
The biggest problem Ansell's team had to cope with in converting *FIFA* from the consoles over to the PC was the scrolling. As Ansell explained, "The PC doesn't lend itself very well to scrolling. A lot of consoles have nice fancy hardware to play with for graphical manipulation. For me as a programmer it's a software challenge." And the scrolling certainly is smooth, even on a lower spec machine (you need at least a 16MHz 386). Ansell loves programming for the PC and particularly likes the longevity of the system. "Consoles will come and go, and although I know that PCs are changing, there's unlikely to be a revolution over night." Buckner enjoys the fact that PCs can be networked, "opening up a whole host of new ideas and possibilities, holding great potential for future titles."

Sega revisited

The animation frames from the original Sega game, though not completely redrawn, have indeed been "revisited". Taking into account the palette limitations that exist on a Mega Drive, Buckner noted that it, "would have been foolish of us just to plonk that on to a PC". The colour and detail of the sprites certainly seem impressive, and the backdrops have also been greatly improved. Ansell explained that "it's a synergy. As soon as you've touched up the scenery with some texture mapping, if you stuck a Mega Drive player on it, then it would look ghastly." Even the crowds in the stalls have been redesigned. Buckner enthused that "each person is an individual. The same people obviously recur in the crowd, but they don't all do the same thing at the same time."

Pushes and slide tackles have been carefully monitored by FIFA, who laid down some strict guidelines, especially over gratuitous violence

EA is cagey about the advertising on billboards around the game's stadium. As we reported in the *PCF* Interview last month, Microtime Media is responsible for putting Penguin biscuits in *James Pond* and Chupa Chups in *Zool*, and now it and EA are working on some clients for *FIFA*. As yet, nothing has been confirmed – the billboards on the version we saw were still blank. Buckner emphasised that this is not strictly a commercial decision, "Many of the test groups we surveyed actually felt that it would lend authenticity to the →



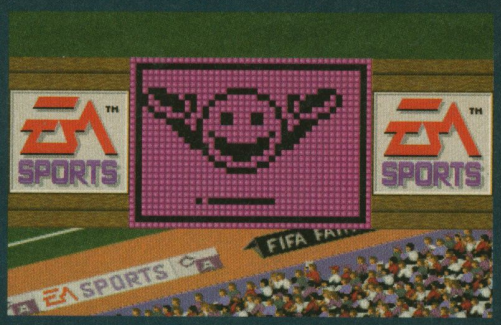
A lot of effort has gone into updating the animations. Here are the frames for a goal kick, an angry ref, a diving header, a bicycle kick and a throw-in.

WHAT IS EA SPORTS ALL ABOUT THEN?

Electronic Arts has carefully nurtured the image for their Sports division, always buying up big licenses and striving to create accurate sports simulations. As PR manager Nick Channon pointed out, "Our EA Sports brand is very important to us, as a major source of our revenue." The label's flagship titles include the acclaimed *Madden* games and *NHL Hockey*. Channon enthused that, "The *NHL Hockey* conversion for the PC was developed over in Canada, where a few people who were really into the game wanted to do a PC version. It did well, made people take notice and got us thinking that maybe we could produce other sports games for the PC." *FIFA International Soccer* is only the first in a line of new PC products.



Some goal mouth action, but this time the keeper remains unbeaten. Nice one, Cyril.



Score a goal and you're treated to a cartoon on the board – you even get to see a Mexican wave.



The lighter texture on the pitch shows better conditions – this will effect how the game plays.

→product, to get what you'd see at a real soccer match."

Pet loves

The version we looked at was also still waiting for the addition of sound, but Buckner stressed that this was because they hadn't wanted to just use the samples and routines from the console original. "Sound is one of my pet loves and we're working on it at the moment." He went on to say that, "The good thing about the PC is the fact that the architecture is open-ended. If you go back far enough you've got a bleeping PC speaker, and now we're talking high-end soundcards which lend potential to the ideas of Dolby Surround Sound, Q-Sound and 3D sound." The controls needed changing for the PC, where four-button joypads are relatively rare and players would be expecting to use keyboards most of the time. There are only two buttons now to control passing, shooting, player select and other tricks. Hold down both buttons at the same time and you pull off an aggressive play – that's the polite term for a professional foul. Pushes and slide tackles have been carefully monitored by FIFA, who recognises that aggression is part of the game, but nevertheless laid down some strict guidelines to EA. The concern was over gratuitous violence, so there are no hockey-style beat-'em-up sections, and the ref always comes down especially hard on any dodgy play.

"Many of the test groups we surveyed felt that billboard advertising would lend authenticity to the finished product."

Kevin Buckner, EA

The management options are simple to use, enabling you to set formation and player reach across the pitch. Set plays have not been included because EA felt it would reduce the pace of the gameplay. Although this could be seen as a weakness, two modes of play have been included – arcade and simulation. On arcade the players all have the same strengths and weaknesses, whereas on simulation not only are all your team members unique, with differing aptitudes, but they also get tired as the match progresses. However, on both modes the game plays like a dream.

The improvements in the artificial intelligence are hard to quantify, but Buckner was keen to point out that the programming team were all English, "Football is part of our blood." But it still didn't do the programmers any harm to sit down and watch video tapes of key soccer games and find "those magic ingredients that set the game apart. We had to make it play like the real game, otherwise FIFA wouldn't have put their name to it." The coding for the Mega Drive original was done in Canada, though the project was still scripted and designed in the UK. *FIFA* is the first big EA Sports game to come out of the UK division.

Sadly, the game lacks a team editor, mainly because the console versions wouldn't let you save teams without a battery backup. However, team editors are promised for the CD-ROM version, along with additional enhancements including a live commentary. Electronic Arts is already in discussion with a top sports presenter to front up the package. These plans are some months away, but the classic *FIFA International Soccer* will be in the shops by July. In the meantime, feast your eyes on these screenshots and place your reservation for the next issue of *PC FORMAT*, which will feature an exclusive fully-playable demo of the game. *FIFA's* going to be absolutely massive. PCF

A PICTORIAL HISTORY OF FIFA

A dribble down memory lane...



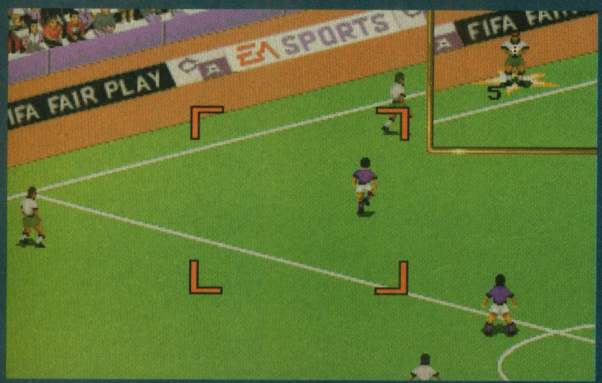
Good: The Mega Drive version. Looking very December '93.



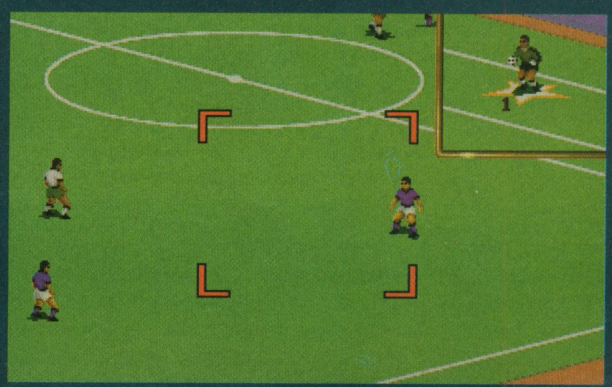
Better: The Super Nintendo game. Still room for improvement.



Brilliant: The PC version sends the console games back to the changing room for an early shower. Here you see the astroturf surface.



For throw-ins *FIFA* splits the screen. In the top-left you see the player with the ball. The red target shows where you want to throw the ball.

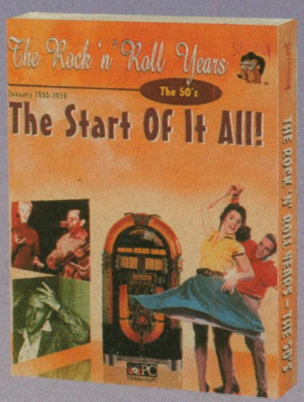


If you move the target further than, for example, the goalie can kick, then the ball will fall short. So, for accuracy, the *PCF* top tip of the day is don't overstretch.

SUPERVISION



THE ROCK 'N' ROLL YEARS-THE 50'S



FOR MPC CD Rom £24.99

This is the first in the series....following will be the decades of the 60's, 70's and 80's and 90's!

- The UK and USA singles charts from 1950 to 1959
- 25 Minutes of Digital Video
- More the 700 trivia quiz questions
- Over 300 pages of related text with facts, figures and trivia for the decade



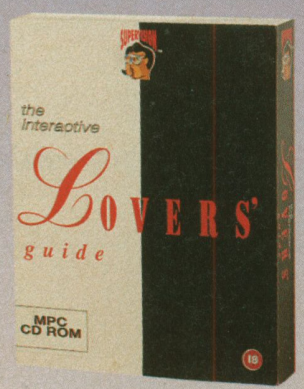




18 LOVERS' guide

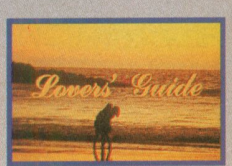


Available on MPC CD Rom £34.99 and Mac CD Rom £39.99



- 9 chapters of video exploring and explaining sex and relationships
- Up to 40 minutes of full motion video
- Well researched and entertaining psychometrics tests written by Dr. L. Kristal
- Password facility to restrict access
- Chapter devoted to safe sex and contraception





THE COMPUTER AND VIDEO GAMES SUBSIDIARY OF

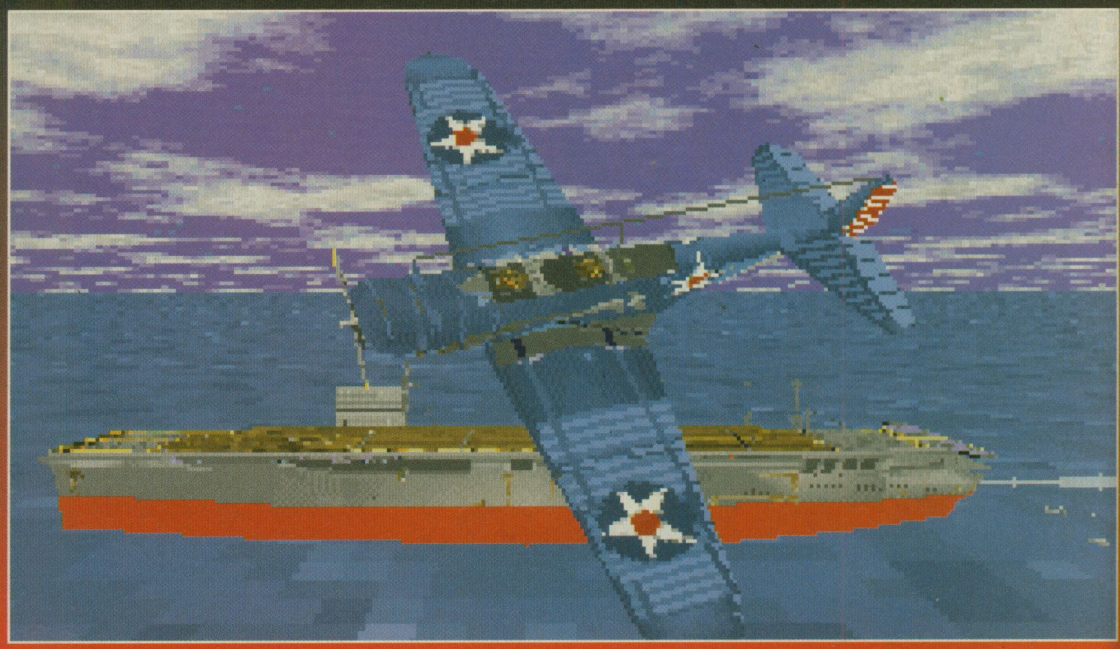
Waddingtons

SEL, UNIT N3 METROPOLITAN WHARF, WAPPING WALL, LONDON E1 9SS

Pacific Strike

PCF Recommended

It's not that people are xenophobic, it's just that a lot of them happen to hate foreigners. Richard Longhurst wonders why.



Don't spend too long showing off your flying skills to Japanese aircraft carriers or you might suddenly find that your shiny Wildcat has been shot full of holes by some rather irritable enemy pilots.

They were really sneaky those Japanese, weren't they? Creeping up on Pearl Harbour like that, totally unannounced and with only a couple of hundred planes screaming out of the sky. Maybe, but they're certainly not as sneaky as the history-twisting Yanks who are prone to putting such a gloss on their version of events that the original occurrence is almost completely hidden behind the shiny jingoistic veneer.

Steady on, that sounds like a bit of anti-American bias creeping in there, but by including phrases such as "nip bastards", Origin is simply asking for trouble. It's one thing to try to recreate the mood of the times by taking a bit of creative license to spice things up, but it's quite another to resort to blatant racist slurs.

Okay, so US pilots in the Pacific in World War II might have referred to "nip bastards" on an hourly, matter-of-factly basis, but there must be far better ways to deal with the facts and feelings of WWII than by casually dropping cheap insults. German software house Blue Byte produced *History Line 1914-1918* (an excellent war game based on WWI) without ever once mentioning krauts or Englischer schweinhunds. You would have thought that with Origin's awesome game-creating pedigree, the designers would have been able to generate atmosphere and excitement by using sophisticated story-telling techniques.

When you see a Japanese aircraft that's heavily laden with a stack of bombs, you can instantly target it and give chase

Yankee doodle dandy

Still, if you take the overtly American point of view with a large pinch of salt, *Pacific Strike* turns out to be the best World War II flight sim since *Secret Weapons of the Luftwaffe* graced these hallowed pages in the very first issue of *PC FORMAT*. It's Origin's first real attempt at a historically accurate sim, though you could argue that *Strike Commander* was historically accurate even though it was set in the future because it incorporated the realistic F16 flight model. The attention to detail is admirable as you're taken through World War II, though it does have a tendency to rather oversimplify events. The game starts with the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbour which brought the USA into the war. It's described as a sneak attack, with no mention of President Roosevelt being told about the onslaught by British intelligence.

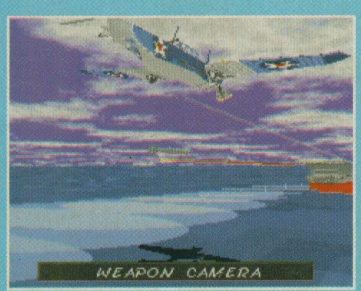
The game has to achieve a fine balance by maintaining the realism and attention to historical detail, but at the same time providing an enjoyable flight sim experience. The instant action options give you the chance to practise dogfights and bombing in any of the game's planes, and when you're ready it's time to fight through the rest of World War II. You start the game as a cocky rookie pilot and have to accept whichever missions fate throws your way. *Wing Commander* and *Strike Commander* were criticised because they didn't give you enough control over the missions, but in

HERE'S ONE WE BLEW UP EARLIER

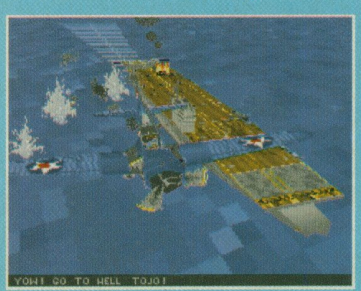
Never before has dropping torpedoes been so much fun.



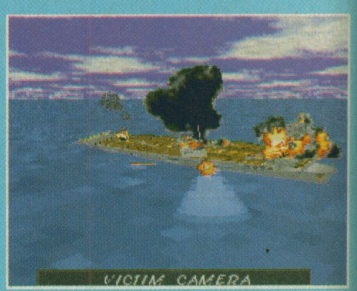
Come in low and level behind the enemy carrier, braving the flak and anti-aircraft fire.



Drop the torpedo and the view automatically switches to the weapon camera.

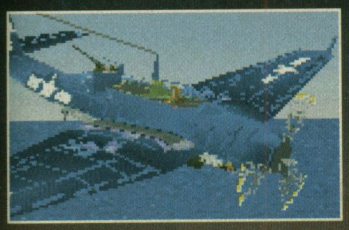


From another external view, you can see the the torpedo struck home at the rear of the carrier.



Make another pass, this time from the side, and the target's soon on its way to the ocean floor.

Some plane speaking In training you can fly both American and Japanese planes.



The US Avenger was a trusty twin-seater torpedo bomber, with a range of 1,200 miles...



Which looks pretty insignificant when compared to the Japanese Betty's 3,300-mile range.



The famous folded-wing Corsair, which was famous for having wings that folded up.



The Douglass Dauntless dive bomber could only carry one 1,000lb bomb, so don't miss.



With a name like the Devastator, this bomber can only be good for one thing – flower arranging.



The Japanese Kate torpedo bomber had a limited range of a meagre 683 miles.



The Wildcat was the staple fighter for the early part of the war in the Pacific, but it was no match for...



The Zero, a fast and manoeuvrable fighter which struck fear into the hearts of many US pilots.

Pacific Strike you can earn the right to plan mission strategies for yourself.

After half a dozen successful sorties, you gain your first promotion (and if you're good enough, the Congressional Medal of Honour) and are then able to choose your own planes and weapons, so if you prefer bombs to torpedoes, then load them up and away you go. When you make it to Lieutenant Commander you assume total control of each mission, deciding which and how many planes will attack which targets. This really broadens *Pacific Strike's* appeal, and makes you feel like you're in control of your own destiny, and not at the mercy of the game's whims.

You can just about forgive its jingoistic leanings, and if you don't take the hopeless stereotypes too seriously then you're in for a riot

Torpedo torment

If anything, *Pacific Strike* errs on the side of playability, with numerous external views making it easier to line up with ground targets and track down airborne enemies. One of the views enables you to gaze fondly at every plane in the air, so when you see a Japanese aircraft that's heavily laden with a stack of bombs, you can instantly target it and give chase. Several other cameras give you ample opportunity to admire the game's graphical splendour, with a weapon view that tracks your bombs and torpedoes, and a victim camera that instantly displays whoever's on the wrong end of your ordnance.

Yes, it's heaps of fun, yes the explosions are spectacular and yes you can get up and at 'em with the minimum of fuss, but it's not the totally swoony dreamboat game you might have expected. Origin's self-styled quest to push the PC further than it's ever been pushed before is a laudable one, but this time the Texas-based tinkers have gone too far. Unless you're equipped with a 486DX2 or a Pentium, you have to turn the detail levels down to get the game running at an acceptable speed for dogfights, and that automatically destroys much of the game's appeal. On a 486SX you end up flying planes that look like they're made of balsa wood over a sea of plain blue, and where's the excitement in that? Bombing convoys is quite acceptable with the detail levels up high on a 486SX, but that's about all.

The bombing missions are a great laugh, just as they were in *Strike Commander*, but you find that the dogfights can drag on interminably, even if the enemy's artificial intelligence is set to rookie level. This has probably got more to do with the Hellcat's inferior flying capabilities when it comes

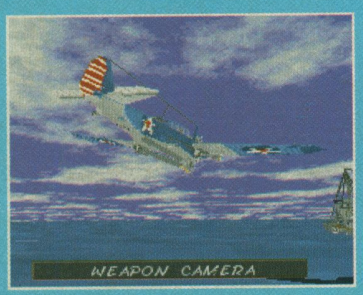


A hopeful pilot tries to sink a ship by using his machine gun. Or maybe he's just admiring the splashes when the bullets hit the water.

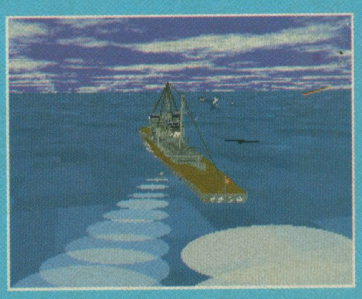
TORPEDO RUNNING, AND RUNNING... This ship-sinking business is far too easy.



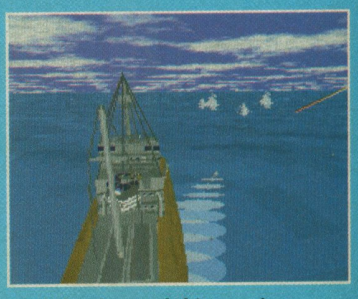
Here we are again, coming in low and level, this time to sink a Japanese frigate.



Torpedo away, admire the view, twiddle your thumbs, read the newspaper, wait for the explosion.



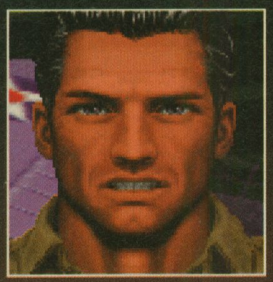
There it goes, the torpedo's about to strike the ship, the plane performs a posey fly past...



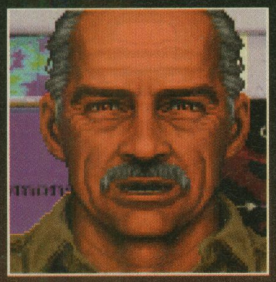
And the damned thing cruises straight underneath the ship. Maybe it's not so easy after all.

We really don't need anymore heroes

Especially not ones who look like this lot.



Steven Morrissey
The hero of *Pacific Strike* answers to any name.



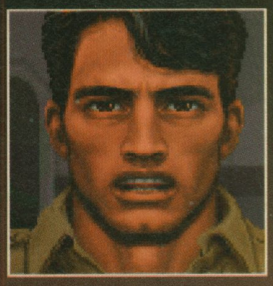
In charge bloke
Pay attention to what he says in the briefings.



Cocky bloke
He really does deserve to get shot down.



Experienced bloke
Full of boring tales of past campaigns and glories.



Other bloke
Who looks as symmetrical as all the rest.

up against the nippy Japanese Zeros, but that's no consolation when you spend half an hour chasing a plane around the sky before you can line up a shot.

Up to scratch

The location graphics and animation inside the aircraft carrier don't look like they're up to Origin's usual standard. By now we're all too familiar with the stereotyped characters, but they are getting awfully tired. There's the trigger-happy youngster, the seasoned vet, the depressing pessimist and the grey-haired commander, and they've all got something to say about the state of the war effort. The linking scenes could easily be lifted from *Wing Commander* or *Strike Commander* – just swap all references to "nips" for "Kilrathi furballs" or "Prideaux's mercenaries" and away you go.



Switch to the rear turret to loose off a few insolent shots at a distant enemy ship. How futile.



Replace the cockpit with an F-16's and you could almost be playing *Strike Commander*.

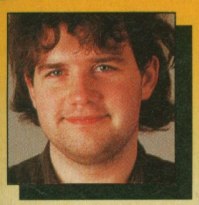
There's nothing drastically wrong with the way the story line progresses and the impressive cinematic interludes break up the action, but you'd have thought that by now Origin would have introduced some new tricks. It's great that you get a lot more choice over the actual missions and mission structure than you ever did in *Wing Commander* and *Strike Commander*, but it's about time that the character interaction side of things was improved upon. But perhaps that's being a tad greedy. How many other flight sims give you the chance to even see your co-pilots or commanding officers, let alone talk to them in the mess hall?

By including phrases such as "nip bastards", Origin is simply asking for trouble

You can just about forgive its jingoistic leanings (though at times it does teeter perilously on the brink of racism), and if you don't take the hopeless stereotypes too seriously then you're in for a riot. With all the realism options turned off, you get stuck into some dramatic dogfights and when you're familiar with the controls, you can crank up the realism to see how tough it really was to land a couple of hits on those nifty Japanese Zeros.

Pacific Strike is one of the most eminently enjoyable flight sims around, and if the fluffy cinematic bits don't quite get the juices of excitement flowing, then the aerial action certainly does. PCF

Another perspective



I believe Richard may be succumbing to the lure of Origin. His critical faculties, such as they were, have been blunted by the fact that this is written by Origin and should therefore be exceptional. Tragically, it's not at all.

Firstly, there's the speed, or utter lack of it. This time Origin may have pushed even the DX2 too far, so be prepared to get out the Pentiums. *Pacific Strike* is outrageously slow given the amount of detail it's (not) displaying, and the cut-scenes are quite simply shoddy and annoying.

Origin is wonderful, normally, but not in this case. Stick with *Strike Commander*.

Ed 'Miserable git' Ricketts

Looking elsewhere

Flight sims are great, aren't they?

A nostalgic glance
Secret Weapons of the Luftwaffe
£40.99 US Gold, *PCF* 1, 85%

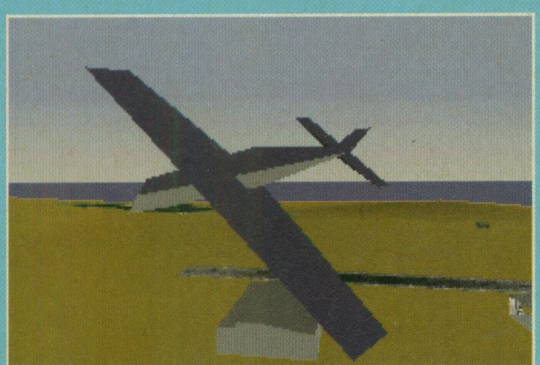
Similar leanings
Aces Over Europe
£44.99 Sierra, *PCF* 28, 76%
Aces of the Pacific
£39.99 Sierra, *PCF* 11, 67%

Next month...
Pacific Airwar 1942
MicroProse's sim will be reviewable next month, but can it shoot down *Pacific Strike*?

FROM BALSA WOOD TO METAL

In three easy stages.

Origin caters for a wide range of PCs (ahem) but *Pacific Strike* is only worth playing on a machine with at least a 486DX.



Turn all the detail levels to minimum and you can play the game on a 386, but would you want to?



Add a touch more detail and it looks better.



With all of the options on, you need a dead fast PC.

Pacific Strike

£49.99 Origin/EA ☎ 0753 549442

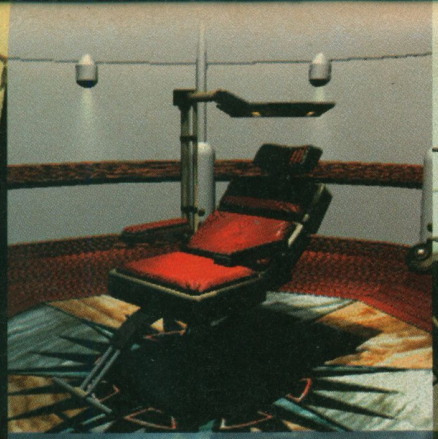
Minimum system: 4Mb; VGA; 386; hard disk (17.5Mb)
Optional extras: AdLib; Sound Blaster; Roland; mouse and joystick

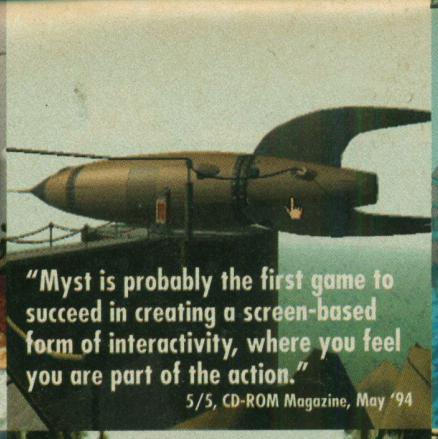
For
- Instantly appealing
- Gorgeous graphics
- Exciting bombing missions
- A joy to play

Against
- Pricey
- Dogfights can drag on
- Zealously jingoistic

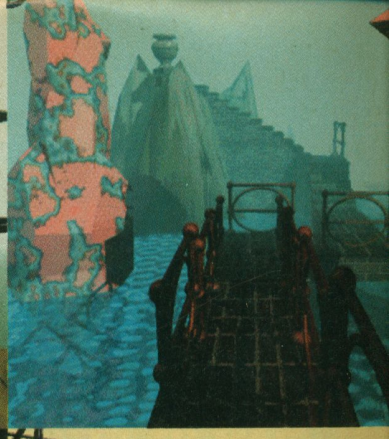
PCF Rating 84%

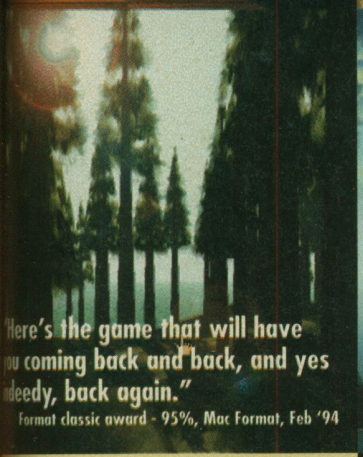




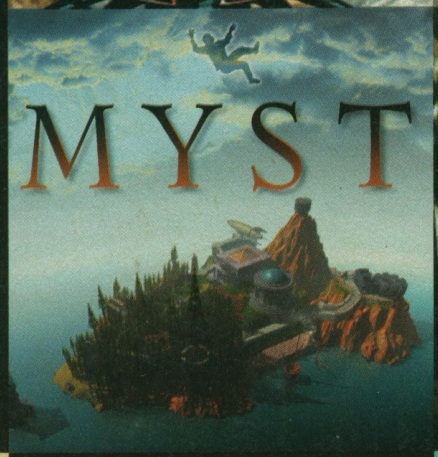


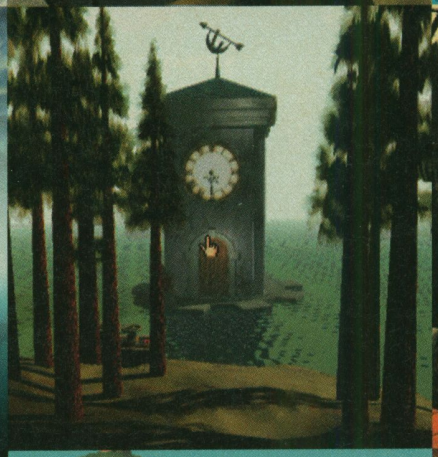
"Myst is probably the first game to succeed in creating a screen-based form of interactivity, where you feel you are part of the action."
5/5, CD-ROM Magazine, May '94



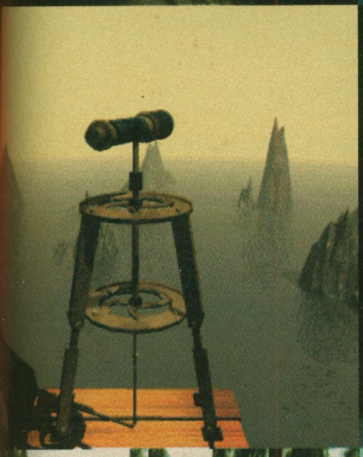


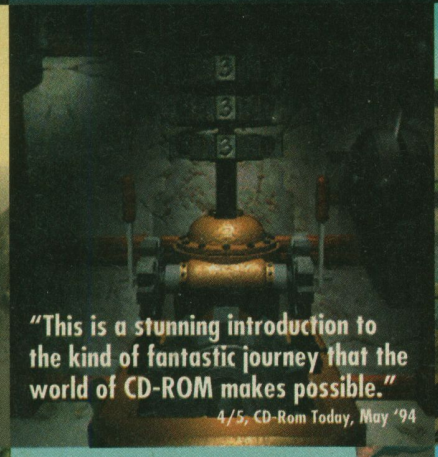
Here's the game that will have you coming back and back, and yes indeedy, back again."
Format classic award - 95%, Mac Format, Feb '94



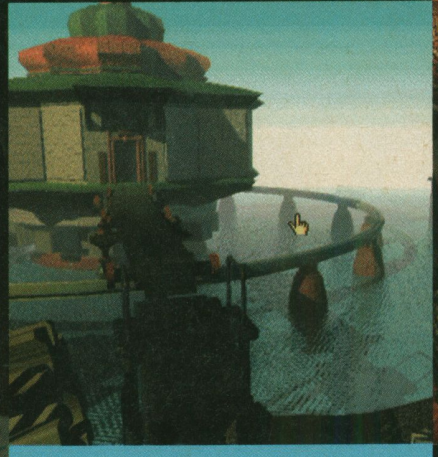


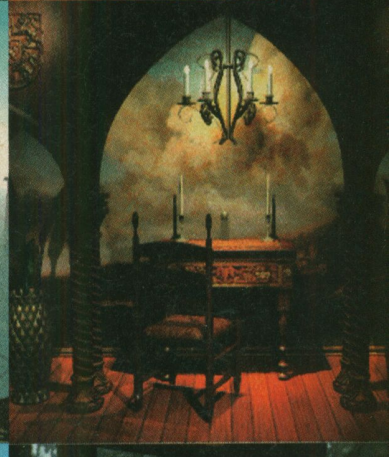






"This is a stunning introduction to the kind of fantastic journey that the world of CD-ROM makes possible."
4/5, CD-Rom Today, May '94









All four dimensions
All six senses





Lose yourself in the worlds of Myst.

Designed for CD, this multi-dimensional mystery re-draws the boundaries of the interactive adventure.

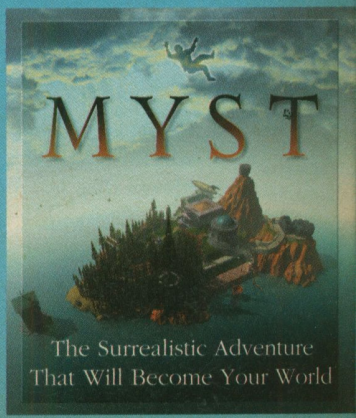
Only CD allows the level of sumptuous graphic detail, photo-realistic landscaping and mesmerising sound found here. Your senses will come alive as you unravel the myriad secrets of Myst.

CYAN®

Broderbund®

Distributed in Europe by Electronic Arts, 90 Heron Drive, Langley, Berkshire SL3 8XP, Tel: 0753 546465. Myst is a trademark of Cyan, Inc. All rights reserved. © Copyright 1994, Braderbund Software, Inc. and Cyan, Inc.

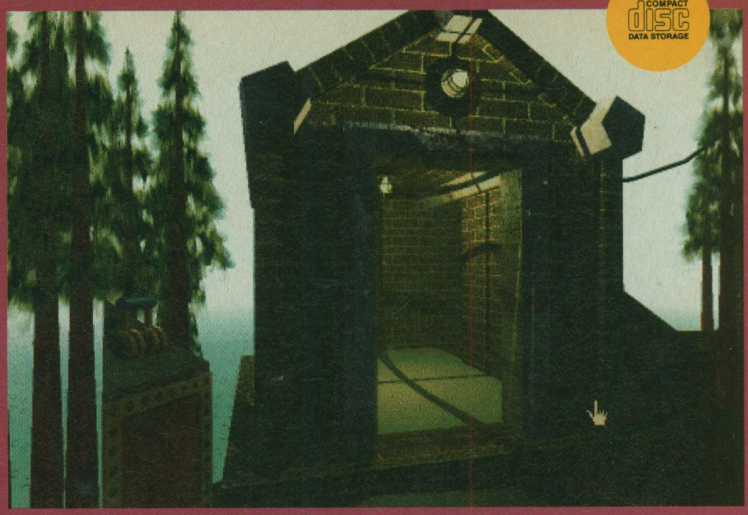




Myst

You could describe *Myst* as off-centre. About 90 miles off-centre. Ed Ricketts looks puzzled, but in an intelligent sort of way.

PCF Recommended



Get lost in the *Myst* and you soon get lost in the myriad bizarre puzzles contained therein. There's one waiting beyond this door, as a matter of fact.

This is going to be difficult. Any of you who've seen *The Crying Game* know the problems involved in trying to explain the plot to a prospective viewer without mentioning the one development which irretrievably ruins the entire film. You know, the bit where it turns out that... uh, never mind.

Explaining *Myst* is, if anything, harder, because it's a game based entirely on mystery (hence the name, probably). You're told that you've found a book called *Myst*, which describes a weird island world of the same name. And, wouldn't you know it, as soon as you finish this riveting volume you get all dizzy and find yourself falling through the ether, landing with a bowel-shattering thump on the world of Myst itself.

Um, that's it, unfortunately. You don't know what you're doing, how to do it, who to do it to, and who to send the bill to afterwards. In short, you know bugger all, except that moving around the island is just a matter of clicking in the direction you'd like to go.

The island is quite small and can be fully explored in a matter of minutes, or so it seems at first. Not that this gets you anywhere. There's a library containing books filled with cryptic notes and sketches by a man called Cyrrus, who seems to have visited this world (and others) before you. There are strange machines covered with switches and dials which don't seem to do anything noticeable. There's a submerged ship, a locked clock tower, a working generator, and a note from somebody called Atrus to somebody called Catherine. And you find yourself asking yourself, "What the bloody hell is going on?" To which you have to answer irritably, "Don't ask me, mate."

Many games have claimed to be the first interactive film but *Myst* is arguably the most successful

Further study of the apparently nonsense-filled books in the library and the map on the wall should give you some clues. By piecing together the disparate bits of info around the island (and noting them in the book that has been rather thoughtfully provided), the plot slowly reveals itself. You realise that the pages you find are connected to the red and blue books in the library, and that the people who seem to be trapped inside are desperately trying to communicate. Every object on the island (and beyond – now there's a clue) has a use, if only you can figure out how to work it.

As in *The 7th Guest*, you're faced with a series of puzzles, but they're never quite as straightforward to solve, and solutions can involve objects miles or worlds apart. Think logically, remember everything you've seen, and soon your goals will become clear. And those are the only clues you're getting.

It's a bit odd, then

Graphically, *Myst* urinates from a great height over similar games. The amount of detail is staggering. Every object has been lovingly modelled and rendered down to the last rivet and crease. Most locations have four viewpoints, so you can face in any of the main compass directions. Movement is flick-screen rather than animated, which in the long term saves a lot of time when travelling, especially as the screen update is remarkably fast for a hi-res Windows game. The Macintosh-originated *QuickTime* video clips are, shamefully enough, far better than *Video for Windows* can manage. They're sharper, more spritely and much less jerksome, if that's the word. Only the lip-synching lets them down.

Accompanying the visuals is a smattering of some of the best, most understated music you're likely to hear on your PC. It only wafts over you in a few key locations, but when it does it has the desired effect. Sound



It's the Sea of Time, or something. First problem: reaching the clock. Second problem: how to get in.



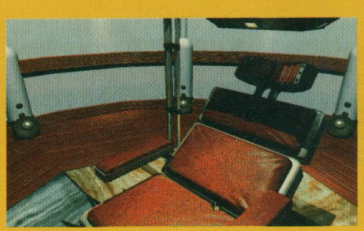
Now that's a fine chest. Unlike chests in most other adventures there's no need to open this one.

IT'S A MYSTERY TO ME...

Now concentrate. There you are, on this island, without a blummin' clue what's going on. So what do you do? You have a look round, that's what.



The note on the ground is from Atrus. He seems to have a peculiar obsession with his foredeck.



Press on into the building on the hill and you find this dentist's chair. Except, of course, it isn't...



...sit in it and you discover it is, in fact, some sort of weird star-gazing device, activated by entering a date.

A PLAGUE OF LIGHTHOUSE KEEPERS Well, not exactly. One thing the game does lack is people.



Sooner or later, probably later, through an immensely complicated and entirely unnecessary series of events, you reach this watery island world.



It's here that the graphics decide to get particularly lush and the music works itself up into a swirling cantabile. *(Steady on now – Dan)*



Tucked away in the bedroom is this old holographic rose-to-skull morpher. Not even faintly useful, but fun for mucking about with.

samples are used in more abundance, and these too have an eerily evocative effect on the atmosphere of the game.

Almost surreal, in fact

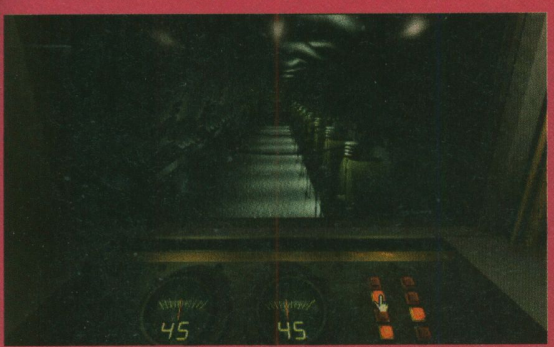
Compared to *Myst's* subtle effects, *The 7th Guest* seems melodramatic, overblown and, in retrospect, unforgivably amateurish. *Myst* is more adult, without being dull, and infinitely more satisfying. It's like the difference between a film by John Hughes and a film by John Cleese. One you might laugh at for a while, but then immediately forget, while the other makes you laugh longer and louder, and stays with you well after it's finished. You only need to watch *Trains, Planes and Automobiles* followed by an episode of *Fawlty Towers* to appreciate the difference.

Many games have claimed to be the first interactive film but *Myst* is arguably the most successful, although strictly speaking it's an adventure. *The Journeyman Project, Quantum Gate* and other such titles rely far too much on video and shock effects at the expense of gameplay. While *Myst* uses incredible rendered graphics, they're not shoved in your face – they're simply there because they are the most effective way of portraying the world. Video, too, is restricted to the places where it seems natural to use it, and so becomes just another method of communication.

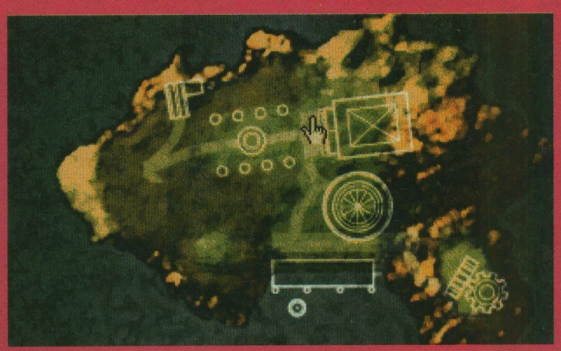
The amount of detail is staggering. Every object has been lovingly modelled and rendered down to the last rivet and crease

But enough theorising. The real power of *Myst*, which no amount of enthusiastic babbling could possibly convey, lies in its weird, understated atmosphere. The whole point of the game is to immerse you in a parallel world or two without being blatant about it, and it works wonderfully. In fact it works almost on a subconscious level, to be horribly pretentious about it all for a moment.

The absence of text and even control icons removes the barrier of a game interface and plonks you straight into an odd little world with its own logic. It's a damnably clever, well-designed game, which remains intriguing throughout, and is always relentlessly professional. But never mind about that. Back to that bit in *The Crying Game* when... Oh dear, run out of space. PCF



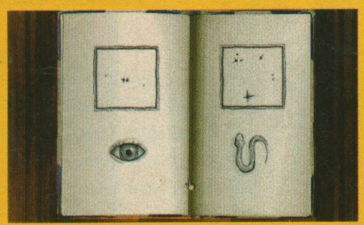
Whack the generator up to 45, make sure it's firing on all cylinders, and... nothing at all happens. Doh.



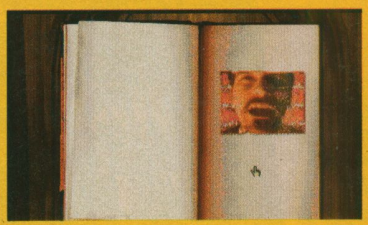
This is the key to the entire game. It's the map on the wall in the library, and it's trés important.



The library. Yes, so there aren't all that many books in here, but hey, every one's a fascinating read.



This one for instance takes you through the basics of recognising animals by their star signs.



And this one contains a mad bearded fellow who's desperate for you to bring him red pages. Hmm.

Looking elsewhere

It's a rendered 3D puzzle-fest!

The original 3D-er
The 7th Guest
£69.99 VIE, *PCF* 22, 75%

Tries hard, but...
The Labyrinth of Time
£39.99 EA, *PCF* 29, 62%

Coming soon
The 11th Hour
We'll be reviewing this just as soon as VIE releases it. Really.

Myst

£44.99 Broderbund/EA
☎ 0753 549442

Minimum system: 4Mb; SVGA; 386; CD-ROM drive; hard disk (4Mb); Windows 3.1; 10Mb virtual memory

Optional extras: Windows-supported soundcard

For

- Incredibly atmospheric visuals and spooky sounds
- Contains – yes! – imagination

Against

- Expensive

PCF Rating 83%

SUBSCRIBE TO PC FORMAT

NOTE: New subscribers may choose any one of the subscription gifts irrespective of which edition (HD or CD) that you choose.

Take out a money-saving subscription and get one of these excellent free games.

SUBSCRIBE AND SAVE!

As a *PC FORMAT* subscriber you benefit from:

- **MONEY SAVING** – a discount of £9.45 off the CD cover price.
- **MONEY SAVING** – a discount of £7.45 off the HD cover price.
- **MONEY SAVING** – a further £2 off with direct debit.
- **MONEY SAVING** – special offers for subscriber only.
- **MONEY SAVING** – on mail order in the magazine.
- **FREE** delivery to your home (UK residents).
- **YOU** receive *Inside Information* FREE every month.
- **PRICE** protection for a year.
- **YOU** never miss that vital feature.
- **YOU** have a no fuss, no-quibble refund on all unsent copies should you wish to cancel.

CD-ROM GIFT SELECTION

To celebrate the launch of the CD-ROM edition of *PC FORMAT*, we've assembled this collection of unmissable CD-based games. Subscribe now and one of these classic games could be yours.



IRON HELIX

Worth £39.99

This tense multimedia adventure sees you stranded on an out-of-control spaceship that's destined to blow up a planet and, in the process, start a war that will destroy the universe. Patrol the ship's corridors and piece together the clues you find (in the form of video messages from the ship's dying crew). There's nobody there but you and the space ships defence droid. Have you got the speed and dexterity to save the universe?



JURASSIC PARK

Worth £39.99

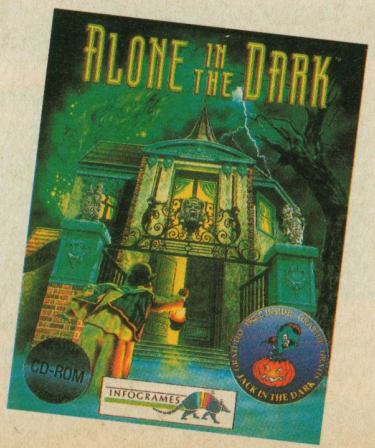
If you're after an unpretentious blast, then this fun shoot-'em-up will have you in raptors... Oops, erm, the game comes in two bite-sized chunks. The first top-down section involves a race against time to rescue John Hammond's grandchildren and reach the relative safety of the visitors' centre. Once there, the game switches to the 3D view (á là *Doom*) and involves another frantic blasting session to kill off any remaining dinosaurs that might be lurking in the dimly lit corridors. Entertainment at its best.



THE JOURNEYMAN PROJECT

Worth £39.99

Now this is how it should be done. *The Journeyman Project* is an ambitious CD-ROM adventure game in which gameplay takes precedence over flashy graphics. It's set in the far future, where it's up to you to save the world as we don't know it by travelling back into the past and repairing a life-threatening rip in time. Unlike many of its contemporaries, the game doesn't throw a mass of spooled video at you. Instead you're asked to explore, solve some fairly complex puzzles and (gasp) really get involved. A benchmark against which other interactive movies will be judged. We awarded it 81% in *PCF* 29.



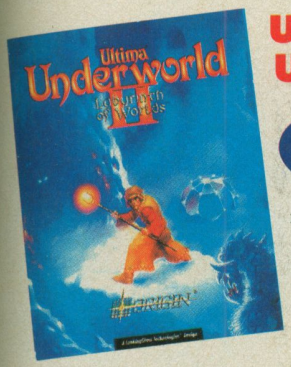
ALONE IN THE DARK

Worth £44.99

The CD-ROM version of *Alone in the Dark* combines cinematic camera angles with smooth polygon-based animations for a truly absorbing gaming experience. Set in a haunted house and the frightening catacombs and caverns beneath, it's packed with brain-mashing puzzles and superlative special effects. Comes with free extra game: *Jack in the Dark*. A classic CD-ROM game which we gave a hefty 85%.

HD DISK GIFT SELECTION

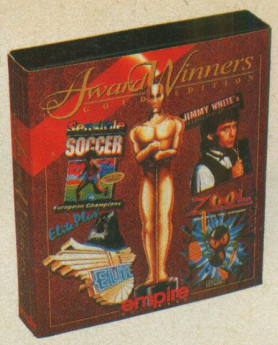
If you don't want to take advantage of our selection of CD games here's some top quality floppy-based entertainment to tempt you with.



ULTIMA UNDERWORLD 2

Worth £39.99

State-of-the-art graphics and game-play in an incredibly smoothly scrolling 3D role-playing game. It's one of the best games we've ever reviewed and well worth its rating of 93%.



AWARD WINNERS GOLD EDITION

Worth £39.99

Empire Software has come up trumps again. Includes four great games: *Zool; Jimmy White's Snooker; Sensible Soccer* and *Elite Plus*. If you've just bought a PC this is unbeatable value. It picked up an 88% rating in *PCF* 31.

BENEATH A STEEL SKY

Worth £39.99

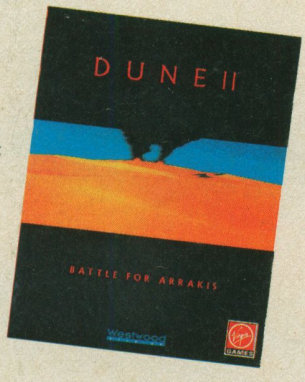
Cyberpunk adventuring of the finest order from Revolution and VIE. With graphics provided by Dave *'Watchman'* Gibbons and a hard-edged sci-fi story line, this is an engrossing adventure. We gave it 87% in *PCF* 28.



DUNE 2

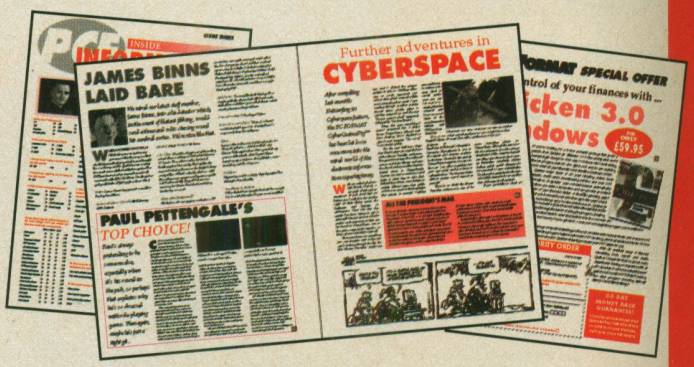
Frank Herbert's magnificent *Dune* saga comes to the PC in fine style with this superb strategy game that tests your reflexes as well as your brainpower. Gorgeous graphics and awesome digitised speech. We liked it so much that we gave it a huge 87% in *PCF* 17.

Worth £35.99



FREE MAGAZINE

Every month subscribers also receive a copy of *Inside Information*, a four-page mini-magazine that takes a look behind the scenes of *PC FORMAT*. Packed with exclusive news, reviews, special discount vouchers and reader offers, it's an essential read.



The choice is yours

Please send me the gift selected below:

- ❑ *The Journeyman Project* CD
- ❑ *Iron Helix* CD
- ❑ *Jurassic Park* CD
- ❑ *Alone in the Dark* CD
- ❑ *Ultima Underworld 2* HD
- ❑ *Award Winners Gold Edition* HD
- ❑ *Beneath a Steel Sky* HD
- ❑ *Dune 2* HD
- ❑ 14 issues for the price of 12

12 issues of the CD-ROM edition of *PC FORMAT*:
- ❑ UK £49.80
- ❑ UK direct debit £47.80
- ❑ EUROPE £77.80
- ❑ REST OF WORLD £106.85

12 issues of the HD-DISK edition of *PC FORMAT*:
- ❑ UK £39.80
- ❑ UK direct debit £37.80
- ❑ EUROPE £67.80
- ❑ REST OF WORLD £96.85

Note: If you are planning to subscribe by direct debit, fill in the direct debit form, and send it along with your details completed on the order form. The direct debit option is the easy way to pay but is only available to subscribers who have a UK-based sterling bank account. Direct debit payments are deducted annually.

SUBSCRIPTION HOTLINE
0225 822511
FAX 0458 273070
Our telephone lines are manned from Monday to Friday, 8.45am to 6pm.

Name (Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms) ..... Initials .....

Address .....

..... Postcode .....

Telephone ..... EEC VAT No .....

❑ **I would like to pay by Cheque** (payable to Future Publishing Ltd)

❑ **Access** ❑ **Visa** Card number ..... Expiry date .....

Date .....Signature .....

❑ Please tick if you would prefer not to receive notice of any special offers or new products

OFFER CLOSES 30 JUNE 1994 PCF/MAG/6/94

Return the coupon to the following address (no stamp required): ***PC FORMAT*** **Subscriptions, FREEPOST (BS4900), Somerton, Somerset, TA11 6BR**

PC FORMAT

SAVE AN EXTRA £2

DIRECT Debit

Direct Debit Instructions ID: 930763

This form instructs your bank or building society to make payments direct from your account. Please complete all five items and then send to us at the address given above.
(Banks and building societies may refuse to accept instructions to pay direct debits from some types of accounts.)

1. Please write the full address of your bank

To: The Manager

.....Bank/Building Soc.

.....

.....

.....

2. Account number ❑❑❑❑❑❑❑❑ **3. Sort code** ❑❑ ❑❑ ❑❑

4. Account in name of:

.....

Instructions to bank/building society
- I instruct you to pay direct debits from my account at the request of Future Publishing Ltd.
- The amounts are variable and may be debited on various dates. I understand that Future Publishing Ltd may change the amounts and dates only after giving me prior notice.
- I will inform you in writing if I wish to cancel this instruction.
- I understand that if any direct debit is paid which breaks the terms of this instruction, you will make a refund.

5. Signed.....

Date.....

The Settlers

PCF Recommended

Here is a game based on the exploits of the Pilgrim Fathers. Join Richard Longhurst as he sets sail in his own private Mayflower.



Hey, let's get techie. One of the advantages the PC has over games systems is that it can display high-resolution graphics, but software houses rarely take advantage of this capability. Most games are produced in the ordinary VGA 320x200 mode, which is fine, but when your eyes have seen the glory of the sacred wunderkind (that's high-res VGA or SVGA 640x480 to you and me) you don't want to put up with any low-resolution shenanigans. Look at *Syndicate*, look at *Myst* (on page 64 as it happens), look at *The 7th Guest*. While you're at it, take a look at the A Tale of Two Cities box at the bottom of this page. The picture on the left is in VGA mode and the one on the right is in SVGA. Fair makes your stomach turn, doesn't it?

Eye strain

It's amazing how quickly you get used to seeing splendid graphics. Play *The Settlers* in VGA and there's nothing much wrong with it, but as soon as you've seen what SVGA looks like, VGA looks awful and you won't want to put up with it. But even though the SVGA mode is immediately stunning, it's really a bit of a cheat – the ordinary low-res VGA graphics are simply shown at a higher resolution. In SVGA mode, the pixels that make up the buildings and people are roughly a quarter of the size they are in VGA mode. This means that while everything looks great, and you can see more of the landscape at any one time, you don't get an increase in the level of detail and everything just looks smaller. This is fine for the cutely animated people and the intricate masonry of the buildings, but it makes it a real strain to decipher the menus and statistical read-outs. Of course, you can always switch back to VGA mode to see things up close, but then you lose definition. There's no way you can zoom in on the landscape to see what's happening at close quarters at the higher resolution. And there's so much going on at any one time that you really do want to zoom in to see exactly what those little critters are up to.

But these are relatively small quibbles in a game that is such a genuine joy to play. From the moment you start constructing your first buildings and you see your little people carrying planks and chopping down trees, to when your first pig is carried off to the butcher and diced up for the miners, you're beguiled by the game's innocent charm. Because there are so

A tale of two cities

For extra fun and frivolity, have a go at the two-player mode. Crushing a friend's feeble efforts is a great deal more rewarding than beating the PC.



Player one is off to a flying start, but his dim-witted opponent is struggling. The view can look cramped in low-res...



It's a good idea to switch to SVGA so both players can get to see a decent chunk of the landscape.



The pinks had better prepare for battle because the red player's boundary has pushed up to the pink's border in the bottom right-hand corner.



The graphical detail in *The Settlers* is quite superb. Smoke rises from chimneys, tree trunks are sawn into planks, and you can actually see the people carrying the materials and finished goods to the correct destinations.



As you progress through the game, you come up against a range of different computer opponents who have widely varying personalities and strategies. And they're all ugly.

many delightful animations, you can sit and watch the Settlers going about their business for hours without feeling obliged to interfere. In fact, Blue Byte has recognised this and included a demo mode in the game which enables you to watch two or more PC players battle it out against one another. Okay, it sounds like the dullest thing you could ever do, but buy *The Settlers* and you could easily find yourself sitting back and watching your PC play itself.

Deeply dippy

The game's cute appearance belies its depth of gameplay. The Settlers seem to have so much to be going on with that you think it would be rude to give them any more chores to do, but you have to make them work their little pixellated socks off if you're going to beat your human or PC-controlled neighbours. With 24 buildings, 25 types of Settler and 26 different items to produce, you've got your work cut out trying to figure out what all the icons do, let alone establishing a winning strategy. The manual guides you gently through the first couple of scenarios, and gives you a rudimentary understanding of the game's basics, but this barely scratches the surface. *The Settlers* is much like *SimCity 2000* and *Civilization* in that respect – it's easy to learn, but difficult to master. The more you play, the more you appreciate the game's intricate subtleties – creating an effective road network, grouping similar types of buildings together, not to mention planning mining and production...

From the moment you see your little people carrying planks and chopping down trees, you're beguiled by the game's innocent charm

There's something quite entrancing about the way you watch the settlement grow and evolve, whether you're in control or not. Even though the gameplay is by no means unique, it's one of the best variations on the invent-'em-up theme we've seen in a long time. The graphics might be too cute for some die-hard strategy fans (who are probably better off sticking to serious strategy games such as MicroProse's *UFO*, reviewed on page 76) but it gives the game instant mass appeal. Mindscape's *Genesia* is perhaps most similar in style and content, but *The Settlers* has that indefinable addictive element that makes the difference between a decent game and an enduring classic.

It's the sort of game that you start playing quite aimlessly, and you are content to watch your civilisation gradually grow almost of its own accord, but when you want to get stuck in, there's plenty of depth and variety to keep you hooked. PCF



Call up the map to see how much of the world is in your control.



When your border shrinks, buildings outside your area burn down.

Looking elsewhere

The next fun-filled strategy game is going to be Bullfrog's *Theme Park*, which promises to be a biggie. In the meantime, get a load of these.

Watch out for...

SimCity 2000
£39.99 Maxis, *PCF* 30, 91%

Genesia
£34.99 Mindscape, *PCF* 32, 75%

Mega Lo Mania
See the *Battles of Time* compilation on page 85.

Laugh at...

Diggers
Millennium's attempt at a cute strategy game is reviewed on page 79.

The Settlers

£39.99 Blue Byte ☎ 0727 868005

Minimum system: 4Mb; VGA; 386; hard disk (4Mb); mouse
Optional extras: AdLib; Sound Blaster; SVGA
486 recommended for SVGA mode

For

- Hours of engrossing gameplay
- Insufferably cute animation
- Play against a friend
- Innumerable lands to conquer
- Good quality SVGA graphics

Against

- Menus too small in SVGA mode
- Icon-heavy

PCF Rating 85%

PROGRESS REPORTS It's got more statistics than you've had hot dinners.



Have a quick look to see what all the people are up to. Looks like we need more of everybody.



Hold the page five feet from your face and that's how big the icons appear on screen in SVGA mode.



This read-out tells you how many of each building you have, and how many are under construction.



Statistics just wouldn't be statistics without half a dozen graphs to show what's been going on.

WE COULD WRITE ABOUT HOW YOU CAN MAKE MUSIC WITH YOUR PC TILL WE'RE BLUE IN THE FACE.

But here's a better idea...



Future Music magazine

with 1-hour-plus CD, on sale Tuesday 24 May

FUTURE MUSIC

Starlord

Although being the lord of a star sounds like a pleasant idea, Jonathan Davies wonders whether it mightn't get a little hot. Especially in the summer.

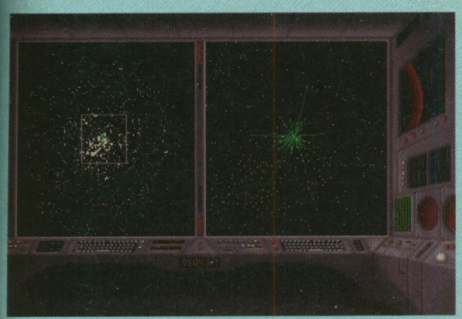


This is kind of an A-Z of the galaxy, zoomed in on your current position.



Find out how you're doing in your bid to become emperor of the galaxy.

Load up *Starlord* and you're whisked far into the future. The human race has risen from its collective settee, cast an eye warily skywards, and colonised the galaxy. Interstellar travel is possible in the blink of an eye. And everyone's wearing Lycra bodysuits and drinking funny blue stuff. But, other than that, the future isn't the idyllic place *Star Trek* led us to expect.



Here's your A-Z of the galaxy, zoomed out slightly, showing the whole thing. Big, huh?

Rather than being largely at peace with itself, troubled only by occasional skirmishes with alien races whose ears are a slightly different shape, the human race has regressed into a feudal system reminiscent of the Dark Ages. Starfleet has lost control, and individual planets are now ruled by lords, ladies, earls, countesses, dukes, duchesses, kings, queens and, ultimately, the emperor. Although they all theoretically fit into a traditional hierarchy, reporting to and obeying their superiors, in reality everyone wants to be the emperor. So they all go around shooting each other's space fleets and invading planets.

Lords-a-leaping

There is some order among the chaos, though. Rulers are bound by an Arthurian code of chivalry, so they come to the aid of any sons or uncles who're in trouble – mess with an earl and you mess with his family. And families can form alliances.

So where do you fit into all this? That's right – you're a humble lord with one planet to your name. You have to conquer as much of the galaxy as possible and eventually, with any luck, get crowned emperor. It's hardly an original concept, but *Starlord*, though flawed, proves to be one of those games you stick with right to the end.

Picture, if you will, Lord Jonatha Davies (it seems that in the future nobody has names longer than seven letters), the 107-year-old ruler of Yemid, a small agricultural planet. He's very much on the bottom rung, with Earl Zeragad Kirilniu, Duke Zerafir Yenarus and Empress Jenefra Immotar between him and the imperial throne. So he's got a bit of catching up to do.

Happily, however, just next door is the lightly-defended planet of Impisus. Travelling around the galaxy for a couple of years, selling farm produce to neighbouring factory and reactor stars, Lord Jonatha builds up enough capital to assemble a small fleet of starfighters and some mercenaries to back them up. Impisus's ruler isn't at home, the gunships he's left to defend his planet soon crumble, and presently Lord Jonatha doubles the size of his empire.

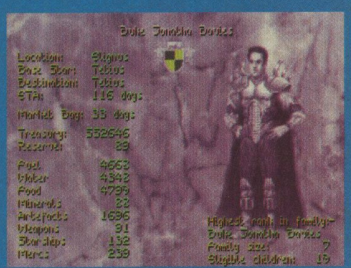
Leaving his son, Lord Hibenor, in charge of Impisus, he sets off to see what else is to be had. The trading side of *Starlord* is far less important than it is in *Elite*, the game it superficially resembles. Rather than trying to make money by buying potatoes on one planet for 25p a pound and selling them at the next for 27p, you're better off simply keeping your fleet supplied with food, water, weapons and fuel, and topping up your coffers by raiding other people's.

And that's where the battles come in. When you arrive at a planet you don't own, you're asked to pay a fee for docking there (usually about half your wealth). Refuse, and you're at war. Having sized up the enemy fleet, and committed a number of your ships to the battle, you're given an overview of the battlefield on a grid of hexes. Each squadron occupies one hex, and you have to assign each of these squadrons a task – defending your capital ship, attacking the nearest enemy squadron, or making a beeline for the enemy capital ship, perhaps. That last one's worth assigning a few squadrons to, because the sooner you destroy his capital ship the →

It's hardly an original concept, but *Starlord*, though flawed, proves to be one of those games you stick with right to the end

LIFE AND HOW TO LIVE IT...

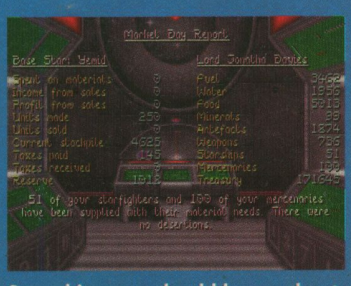
Every last detail of your character's life can be scrutinised.



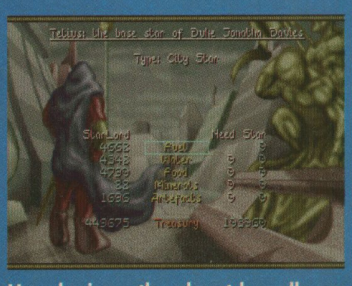
Duke Jonatha Davies. That moody gaze can only come from years of practise in front of a mirror.



Here's a diagram showing all the earls underneath him. In a strictly hierarchical sense, you understand.



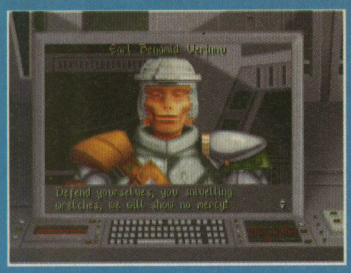
Something you should know about Jonatha is that he likes shopping, especially on Market Day.



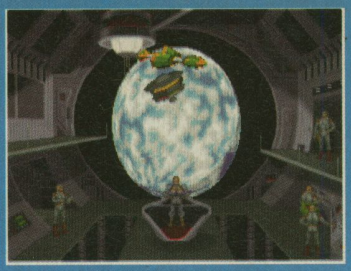
Here he is on the planet he calls home. Everyone else calls it Tetius, though, which can get confusing.

MATTER DISINTEGRATORS AT DAWN

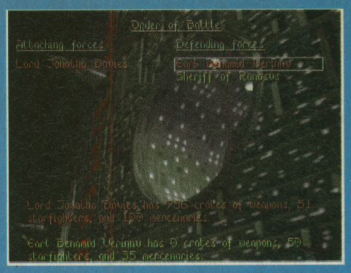
If you decide you don't like the way he's looking at your Vlocturian cyber-ale, here's what to do. Handy for when you want to take over a neighbouring planet, too.



Arriving at Ranosus, you're asked by the sheriff to pay a toll. But you don't, obviously – you start a fight.



Oops. The sheriff has his chum Earl Benamid staying. They move into position and puff up their chests.



In time-honoured tradition, an order of battle is declared. You fight the earl first, then the sheriff.



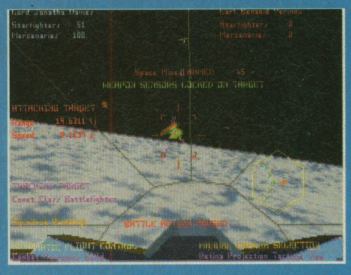
Ah. You appear to have caught the earl with his trousers down. Or rather, without any weapons.



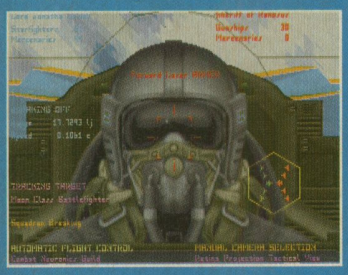
This should be entertaining. Here's where you decide how many ships to send into battle. All of them?



As the earl has no weapons, he can't use any of his ships. Heh heh heh. That's him over on the right.



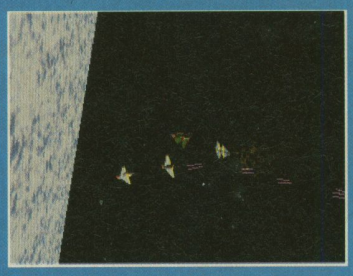
And here you are, in the cockpit of your specially souped-up Starfighter. No need to show off.



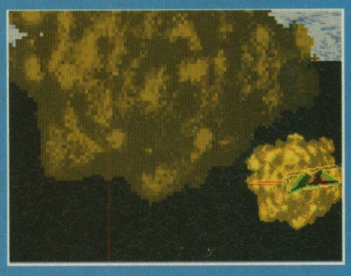
A better picture of you in the cockpit of your specially souped-up etc etc. Yes, yes, like we said.



And here's the outside of your specially souped-up etc etc. Hardly sleek, is it? "Specially souped-up..."



The battle rages briefly as your massive forces overwhelm the earl's slightly less massive forces.



And there goes the earl's capital ship. Hurrah! (Hmm, maybe this wasn't such a good example...)

→ quicker the battle ends, and the fewer ships you lose. Once you've sorted out your strategy, click on the 'Continuous Time' icon and watch your squadrons zoom off into the fray. You can stop the battle at any time and rethink your plan if you want.

But there's more. Select the 'Real Time On Conflict' icon and, when your own personal starfighter comes into contact with the enemy, the view changes to 3D, and you can watch the battle out of the window of your ship. Or, even better, switch off the autopilot and you can take control of your ship and physically get stuck in. You get a great view of hundreds of little spaceships wheeling about the sky, duelling with one another against a backdrop of the planet for which they're fighting, and unleashing photon death on the capital ships. Just like that bit right at the end of *The Empire Strikes Back*.

Out of control

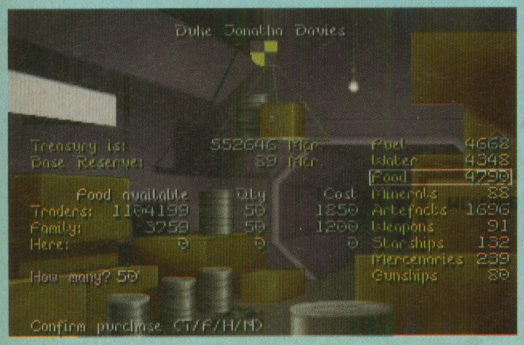
But in the long run, for some reason these 3D sections prove to be the least satisfactory aspect of *Starlord*. Maybe it's because the controls are so weird – anyone used to playing flight simulators is likely to find them virtually impossible to get used to, especially the mouse controls.

Or maybe the problem with these 3D combat sections is more to do with the fact that it's so hard to work out what's going on. Of the ten different internal and external views of the action, only one gives you a view straight out of the front of your ship, and that's restricted to a strip across the top of the screen, with the rest taken up by an instrument panel.

Or perhaps it's simply because there are so many other ships out there managing perfectly well by themselves that you somehow feel rather insignificant, especially when you realise that your ship seems to perform much better if you just leave the autopilot switched on.

But if the battles don't quite fulfil their promise, the strategy side of the game is rock solid. Isn't it? Well, not entirely. For example, there's nothing to stop you from accidentally entering into a battle with no weapons with which to equip your ships, and no way of avoiding a massacre or even a humiliating surrender once you are in battle. Which presumably serves you right for not keeping a close enough eye on all those lists of numbers, but some sort of warning would have been more than welcome. Don't dukes have clerks and advisers to remind them about such trivialities?

And yet, unfeasibly, miraculously almost, all these dubious components somehow come together to form an enjoyable and almost compelling game. You mourn the uselessness of the 3D bits. You wail at the shortcomings of the strategy parts. And yet you keep on playing, amassing more and more dosh and taking over more and more of the galaxy, mysteriously unable to stop. PCF



You'll love the trading screen. Buy things, sell things, get cross when no one has any weapons for sale.

Looking elsewhere

The only other game that's as ambitious as *Starlord* is *Frontier*.

Space invaders

Privateer
£49.99 Origin/EA, *PCF* 26, 79%

Star Control 2
£39.99 Accolade, *PCF* 17, 72%

Frontier: Elite 2
£39.99 Gametek, *PCF* 27, 51%

Coming soon

Outpost
Designed by an ex-employee of NASA. It's due out in June.

Starlord

£44.99 MicroProse ☎ 0454 326532

Minimum system: 2Mb; VGA; 386; hard disk (11Mb)

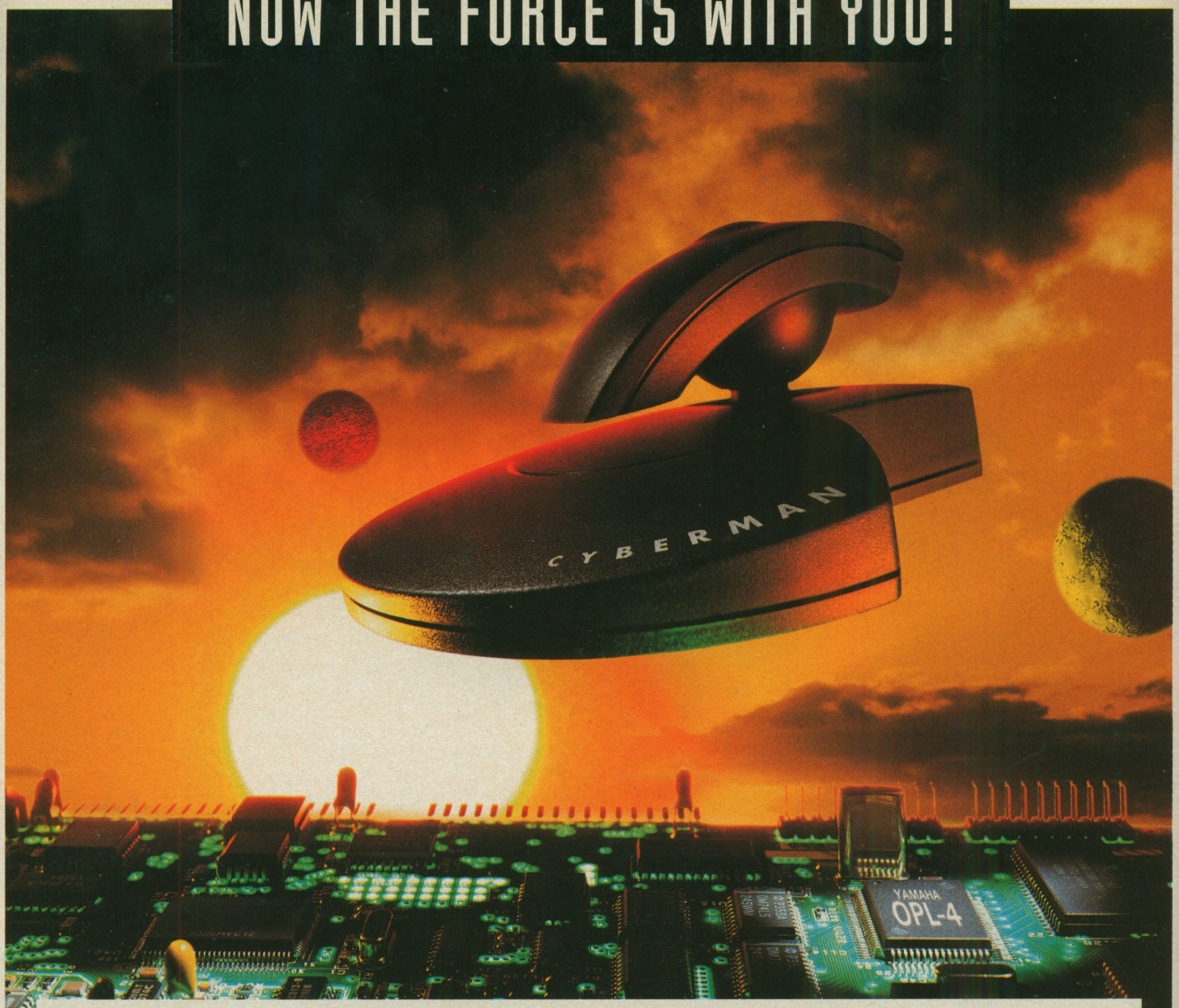
Optional extras: AdLib; Sound Blaster; Roland; joystick; mouse

For
- A whole galaxy to conquer
- Good-looking in places
- Inexplicably addictive

Against
- Slightly suspect strategy
- Sadly pointless 3D bits

PCF Rating 72%

NOW THE FORCE IS WITH YOU!





INTRODUCING CYBERMAN™ & SOUNDMAN™ WAVE. NEW DIMENSIONS IN ACTION AND SOUND.

You need control and power in the exciting new world of 3D games and sound applications. **CyberMan**, the futuristic interactive controller, gives you true three-dimensional control. It's the only device with pulsating tactile feedback, so you'll also FEEL the action! **SoundMan Wave***, the next generation soundboard with the new OPL-4 chip, uses advanced wavetable-synthesis to provide the most powerfully realistic 16-bit sound effects and music. **For REAL action and sound, get CyberMan and SoundMan Wave.**



CYBERMAN & SOUNDMAN WAVE ARE AVAILABLE THROUGHOUT THE U.K. AT:
ACTION COMPUTER SUPPLIES, BYTE SUPERSTORES, ESCOM, GAME, ICON SUPERSTORES, MICRO ANVIKA, PC WORLD, SOFTWARE WAREHOUSE, WINDOWLINE, AND OTHER LEADING PC OUTLETS.

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR A DEALER NEAREST YOU, CALL LOGI (U.K.) NOW ON **0344 891313.**

LOGITECH
The Senseware Company

*Guaranteed fully compatible with SoundBlaster, AdLib and General MIDI. With SCSI CD-ROM interface, joystick- and MIDI port. Includes 5 valuable software packages.

Sam and Max Hit the Road

If you thought Sam and Max had Hit the Road for the last time, think again. The CD version is here and Ed Ricketts wants to gauge reactions.

We are in the office of Sam and Max, freelance police. Dog and rabbit. They're enjoying some enlightening conversation and a Tequila slammer or two following another hard day's work righting the wrongdoers and promoting the use of nihilistic violence as an investigative tool.

Sam: Max?
Max: Yeah, friendly canine pal?
Sam: Do you remember that case we solved involving a bigfoot named Bruno, a giraffe-necked geekess going by the name of Trixie, and a talented if intensely ugly British country and western singer with the handle of Conroy Bumpus?
[Silence]
Sam: I said, do you remember that...
Max: Yes, I heard, I'm waiting for the punch line.



"Hey, Sam, do you think rats enjoy being mindlessly slaughtered in the name of fun?" "Fun? I prefer to think of it as my bounden duty, but it is sort of entertaining." "Damn right it is, pal."

Sam: Uh... there's no punch line. It's a question.
Max: Oh yeah! The one they made a game out of. *Sam and Max Hit the Road*, they called it.
Sam: Please, Max, it's 'out of which they made a game'.
Max: Whatever. Remember it? I remember it like it was yesterday. When in fact it was the day before.
Sam: Yes, well, look at this. [Indicates strange silver disc clutched in one paw.]
Max: Isn't that the plate we removed from the police commissioner's head just after he informed us our services were no longer required?
Sam: Close, little buddy. It's actually a CD-ROM of our game. Do you wanna play it?

The Lawnmow

The game of the film of the concept. Jonathan Pugh is sucked into cyberspace.

As a nod in the direction of those of you who missed the film *The Lawnmower Man*, SCI has kindly preserved its plot: Jobe is a gardener (nice but dim), Dr Angelo is a scientist (nice as well, but smart), Dr Angelo's Virtual Reality equipment is misused by government baddies and, as a result, Jobe becomes Cyberjobe (not at all nice). Cyberjobe tries his best to get control of the entire world through its computer networks.

In the game you play Dr Angelo, who has been sucked into Cyberjobe's Virtual Reality domain. Also trapped here are Carla and Peter, who you have to rescue. Cyberjobe (alias Big Red, a killer lawnmower) wants you dead, even though you've gone out of your way to be civil to him.

No amount of clever pyrotechnical animation can make up for the aching void SCI tries to pass off as a plot

The Lawnmower Man consists of 12 unrelated puzzles, each of which brings you a step closer to releasing Peter and Carla from their bubble-like tombs. But the absence of gameplay (and Peter's whingy face), fails to fire you with zeal. Level one is easy, and, although things get more tricky, it's hard to muster much enthusiasm.

Equally straightforward is the control system. For those of you who've played games like *Tornado*, it's sometimes refreshing not to have to grow an extra 18 fingers. At the most you use five keys: up, down, left, right and [Spacebar]. On the other hand, work is good for the soul, as sage-like people say, and you can't help feeling disappointed when the puzzles prove as untaxing to your head as the control system is to your digits.



And this is what the future of CD gaming is all about, is it? The thrilling action-adventure gameplay of falling through a shower of purple polygons. Below you is a lake of nasal effluvium. Mmmmm.

Virtual chimps and killer Flymos

SCI had planned to release a 256-colour version of *TLM*, and the screen shots we saw of it looked impressive

Max: Sounds suspiciously like a plot to get this review going to me, but hey, I'm not one to stand in the way of cutting-edge technology, especially if it means I get to stay in this scene.

Short break

[Some time later, our heroes are bathed in the light of a PC monitor.]

Max: I wish you'd take that light off our monitor. It gets in my eyes and impairs my Leporidaeic vision.
Sam: Shuddup, Max, and watch this.
[Clicks a few times on screen.]
Max: Whoa! We're talking! Just like in the movies. Except in the movies you don't often get to see a mentally-disturbed rabbit turning a cat inside out. Unless it's a Ken Russell picture.
Sam: Yeah, and look, everyone else makes noises too. Remember that song Conroy did at his mansion?
Max: If I live to be three I'll never forget it. Hey, Sam, get to the part where we visit the Celebrity Vegetable Museum. You know, I don't think I'll ever be able to look a John Muir-shaped zucchini squash in the face again without thinking of the babe who ran the museum.
Sam: Keep the in-game references down. There may be some people out there who have never played it.
Max: Just point them out to me, Max. I'll tie them up with piano wire and dazzle them with my eclectic range of exotic fish impressions.
Sam: Maybe later. First, let's do the part where we discover The World's Largest Ball of Twine.
[Some more time later.]
Max: Sam, I feel impelled to say something at this point.
Sam: The floor is yours, my friend.
Max: The CD version of *Sam and Max Hit the Road* (*PCF* 28, 93%) is the best possible incarnation of a hilarious and involving adventure. Being able to hear the characters voice their bizarrely humorous lines brings an entirely new dimension to the game, so even if you've played and completed it you're missing out without the talkie version. Buy it, if only to hear Conroy Bumpus' ode to vivisection performed as it should be.
Sam: Can I just add something?
Max: I'm all ears.
Sam: You're a sick bunny, Max. PCF

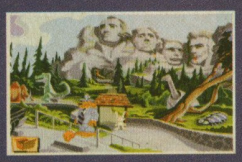
Their world and welcome to it



When it comes down to it, there are really only a few places in the USA worth visiting. Who could miss the splendour of the Celebrity Vegetable Museum?



1. Possibly a snapshot of Max's mind, or the Mystery Vortex.



2. This is what made America great: tarpits with bungee jumping.



3. Conroy Live at Bumpusville – not available in the shops.

Looking elsewhere

What need have you to look elsewhere when adventure heaven awaits you in *S&M*?

More yakety-yak
Day of the Tentacle CD-ROM
£45.99 US Gold, *PCF* 23, 93%
Indiana Jones and the Fate of Atlantis CD-ROM
£45.99 US Gold, *PCF* 28, 90%

Coming soon
The Dig (Well, this year.)

Sam and Max Hit the Road (CD)

£45.99 LucasArts/US Gold
☎ 021 625 3388

Minimum system: 4Mb; VGA; 386SX; CD-ROM drive; hard disk (for saved games only)
Optional extras: AdLib; Sound Blaster; Roland; mouse

For
- It's still the funniest game on the PC
- S&M's voices make it even funnier
- Flawlessly designed and playable

Against
- No challenge if you've already completed it

PCF Rating 94%

er Man

Unfortunately, it's been scrapped. But however flash the graphics might have been, no amount of clever pyrotechnical animation can make up for the aching void SCI tries to pass off as a plot. It could be said that the original fault lies with the makers of the film (a sequel is on its way), but it's a shame that the game also includes this shortcoming. Despite its efforts to put gameplay first, SCI has put most of its eggs in the basket marked 'graphics', and the results are unsatisfying. The movie might have been sumptuously rendered, but it was a turkey on other equally important levels, and *TLM* occupies the same coop. Both film and game prove that, without some kind of narrative thread, even a tale about virtual chimps and killer Flymos can be dull, however vibrant it all looks.

But, to make matters worse, it turns out that *TLM* isn't quite as much of a visual feast as we'd hoped it might be. It features impressive in-game sequences; the action looms at you from every conceivable angle; Big Red chomps convincingly on your midriff; Rosco swoops down on you like the agile ape he is; Cyberjobe has alarmingly blue eyes – but, effective as such images are, they are rarely startling. In some respects, *TLM's* movie origins have worked against it. Although it's at least as good-looking as *Microcosm*, people are bound to compare it unfavourably to the film rather than other similar games.

Steve Hillage's ambient soundtrack is excellent, as are a number of the 3D sequences, but you just can't get past the fact that *The Lawnmower Man* suffers from such a chronic shortage of gameplay. It's a bit like astroturf – lovely on the surface, but lacking in depth. PCF



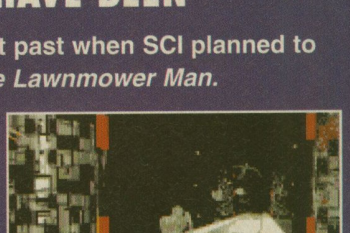
You're attacked by a rubbery-armed creature wearing a potato-sack nappy. What a way to go.

LOOK WHAT MIGHT HAVE BEEN

There was a time in the distant past when SCI planned to do a 256-colour version of *The Lawnmower Man*.



And here's what it looked like. It might have been worth playing.



But a similar scene in the 32-colour game looks dismal.

Looking elsewhere

The Lawnmower Man is definitely a looker rather than a player, like these two.

CD frippery ahoy
Rebel Assault
£49.99 US Gold, *PCF* 28, 79%
MegaRace
£39.99 Software Toolworks, *PCF* 32, 74%

Coming soon
***Alien 4.* Can you *believe* it?**

The Lawnmower Man

£54.99 SCI ☎ 071 585 3308

Minimum system: 2Mb; VGA; 386; CD-ROM drive; Sound Blaster; hard disk (2Mb)
Optional extras: 4Mb and double-speed CD-ROM drive recommended

For
- Faithful to the film

Against
- Absurd price
- Blocky graphics
- Frustratingly limited gameplay

PCF Rating 34%

UFO Enemy Unknown

PCF Recommended

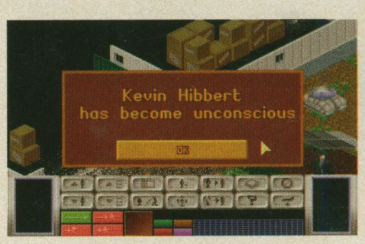
Mutant alien scum are back to bash Earth one last time, and only Richard Longhurst stands in their way. Oh dear.



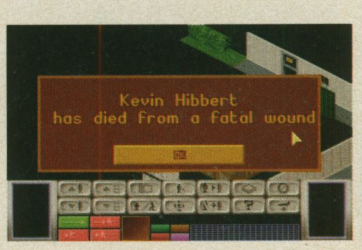
The heroes and heroines disembark from their spaceship, fully armed and ready for yet another action-packed Earth-saving mission.

From *Close Encounters* to *Star Trek: The Next Generation*, flying saucers, spaceships and extra-terrestrial spacecraft have been huge metallic affairs, with millions of blinking lights and a fine line in mega-neutron laser-induced death. It comes as a surprise, then, to find that the eponymous craft in *UFO* make your average motorway-clogging caravan look almost as stylish as the latest Ferrari. Quite why the Earth's population should be terrified of aliens whose invasion plans are based around the offensive capabilities of Wayfarers, Sprites and Musketeers is not entirely clear. But terrified they are, and governments around the globe have clubbed together to pay you to set up an anti-UFO base.

Starting with three aircraft, a handful of scientists and a well-stocked armoury, it's up to you to stop the alien menace. *UFO* combines two popular strategy game styles. On the one hand you're intrigued by the in-depth strategy of running an industrial operation that makes the Channel Tunnel project look as complicated as building a Lego house, while on the other you're enticed by the intense tactical challenge of turn-based combat. Both sections would be worthy stand-alone games in their own right. The combat in *UFO* makes *Sabre Team* look decidedly poor, and it's only half the fun of *UFO*.



Care for your marines or you find that their performance is impaired.



Or even worse, you might find that you have no marines at all.

Stealthy and wise

The appeal of turn-based combat is very different to the real-time slaughter of *Syndicate*. Rather than going in with all guns blazing, you have to adopt a more stealthy, step-by-step approach, fearful that an alien might be lurking round the next corner. At first you think you can wade in with utter disregard for your enemies' abilities, but you soon learn that it's sensible to plan your strategy in great detail. If you've cracked the strategy side of the game, your troops should be equipped with some awesome alien-toasting weaponry, but it's only useful if you have an intelligent strategy to back it up. The only minus points are that, while the gameplay is challenging and enjoyable, the graphics and sound could have done with more effort and thought.

The game has also been released on CD, which includes a couple of minor bug fixes. If you already have the disk version, you can get a patch disk from MicroProse.

UFO could so easily have been an overly serious, dull strategy game. But, thanks to a reasonably slick interface and some well-tuned gameplay, it turns out to be an enjoyable and surprisingly addictive challenge. PCF

Looking elsewhere

For strategy without the combat go for *Civ*, but for mayhem *Syndicate* and *Cannon Fodder* are unbeatable.

More than worthy

Cannon Fodder
£35.99 VIE, *PCF* 32, 86%
Syndicate
£44.99 EA, *PCF* 22, 86%
Civilization
£39.99 MicroProse, *PCF* 4, 85%

Panic on the streets of London



When a UFO is spotted, you send out a speedy interceptor to track the enemy down.



And if your ship is fast enough, it will catch up with the intruder and attempt to make contact.



The world map zooms in whenever your ship engages the invader, this time over London.



And a brief battle ensues. Change the interceptor's attack pattern and hope for the best.



If you win, the UFO plummets to the ground and it's time to send a team to the crash site.



Fan out carefully from the ship and make sure you keep a sharp eye out for any aliens.



Take a battle tank with your team, and you can soon make a total mess of the landscape.



Hey, look. It really is a flying saucer. Of course, this one's landed, but it can fly. Honest.

UFO Enemy Unknown

£44.99 MicroProse ☎ 0454 326532

Minimum system: 2Mb; VGA; 386; mouse; hard disk (12Mb)
Optional extras: AdLib; Sound Blaster; Roland

For

- Vast tracts of strategy
- Engrossing gameplay
- Loads to do
- Goes on for ages...

Against

- ...slightly too long, in fact
- Unambitious graphics and sound

PCF Rating 82%

tech-mate uk

96 HIGH STREET, COLCHESTER, ESSEX CO1 1TH

Call for home recording and Hitech keyboard price list

YAMAHA

HELLO! MUSIC!

The Best Package! CD quality GM module, Steinberg sequencer/ notation software, midi jukebox, 20 FREE songs and cables, No card needed, runs from serial port. **£349·00 inc VAT**

MITSUMI X001D CD-DRIVE
ONLY £139 + VAT!
PANASONIC 562B inc software
£139 + VAT!

CLASSIC 3000 SOUNDCARD

BRILLIANT! PCF rating 89%

Music & Game Card

Forget the other 'Wave' Cards. This is the next best thing to the Roland Cards & Supports games as well. Bundled with Cubase Lite & Midi Interface Cable.

ONLY £219 inc VAT

MIDICON

"The ideal companion for your soundcard/Midi-module".

£84·95 INC VAT



SOFTWARE

Cakewalk Pro 2	£249·00
Cakewalk Home Studio	£129·00
Trax	£99·00
Trax 2	£69·00
Musicator	£245·00
Mastertrax Pro	£149·00
Wave Windows	£109·00
Band in a Box	£75·00
The Pianist	£45·00
Midi File Packs	£9·95
Steinberg Cubase	£180·00
Procyon 32 Track sequencer	£45·00
Encore Notation	£409·00
Musictime Notation	£199·00
Steinberg Cubase Lite	£89·00

Lots of other software available

HARDWARE

TURTLE BEACH CARDS - THE BEST SOUND CARDS

Turtle Beach Maui	£185·00
Tahiti	£295·00
Monterey	£385·00

MICROSOUND ACTIVE
POWERED SPEAKERS, HIFI QUALITY, AMAZING FULL RANGE SOUND. £129 PAIR INC VAT

Roland PC 200 Keyboard	£165·00
Fatar Studio 49 keyboard	£105·00
Fatar Studio 61 Keyboard	£185·00
Full range of keyboards available	CALL
Music Quest midi interface card	£75·00
Key Serial Interface	£105·00
Roland SCC·1	£329·00

ALL PRICES INCLUDE VAT

0206 769176 TEL/FAX
CALL NOW FOR FREE INFORMATION PACK

Access VISA

LOWEST PRICED TOP QUALITY RIBBONS, INKJETS, TONERS & DISKS

Printer Ribbons

BLACK	1 off	2+	5+	10+
Amstrad DMP 2000/3000	2.80	2.65	2.45	2.25
Amstrad DMP 4000	3.66	3.51	3.31	3.11
Amstrad PCW8256/8512/LQ3500	2.85	2.70	2.50	2.30
Brother M1009/1024/1109/1209	3.90	3.75	3.55	3.35
Citizen 120D/LSP10/Swift 24/9	2.85	2.70	2.50	2.30
Commodore MPS1220/1230	4.50	4.35	4.15	3.95
Epson LQ100	4.10	3.95	3.75	3.55
Epson LQ400/500/800/850	3.45	3.30	3.10	2.90
Epson FX/MX/RX80/FX/LX800	2.90	2.75	2.55	2.35
Epson FX/MX/RX100/FX/MX 1000	3.36	3.21	3.01	2.81
Epson LX80/86/90	2.12	1.97	1.77	1.67
Mannesmann Tally 80/81	3.90	3.75	3.55	3.35
NEC Pinwriter P2200	3.03	2.88	2.68	2.48
OKI ML182/183/192/193/195	3.17	3.02	2.82	2.62

BLACK	1 off	2+	5+	10+
Panasonic KXP1123/1124/1140	3.46	3.31	3.11	2.91
Panasonic KXP1080/1180/90/1592	2.89	2.74	2.54	2.34
Panasonic KXP2123/2180	5.75	5.60	5.40	5.20
Seikosha SL90/92/95	5.70	5.55	5.35	5.15
Star LC10/20/100	2.29	2.14	1.94	1.84
Star LC200	3.00	2.85	2.65	2.45
Star LC24-10/200	2.86	2.71	2.51	2.31
Taxan Kaga KP810/815/910/915	3.14	2.99	2.79	2.59
COLOUR	**1 off**	**2+**	**5+**	**10+**
Citizen Swift 24	12.81	12.66	12.46	12.06
Panasonic KXP2123/2180	10.63	10.48	10.28	9.88
Star LC10/20/100	6.00	5.85	5.65	5.25
Star LC200	9.78	9.63	9.43	9.03
Star LC24-10/200	9.63	9.48	9.28	8.88

Ring For Ribbons Not Listed.

Ring us and WE WILL BEAT all other Ribbon prices

31/2" Disks & Disk Boxes

	DS/DD	DS/HD
10 Disks	£5	£8
25 Disks	£12	£18
50 Disks	£21	£31
100 Disks	£36	£56
250 Disks	£83	£128
500 Disks	£162	£238

100 Cap. Lockable Disk Box £5.99 with orders of £10+

Preformatted (MS-DOS) disks available at 2p extra/disk.
All Disks Certified 100% Error Free and INCLUDE FREE Labels.

Inkjets, Ink Refills & Toners

Canon BJ-10/20 Cartridge	17.54 each
Commodore MPS1270 Cartridge	12.13 each
HP Deskjet Cartridge (Double Cap)	24.24 each
HP Deskjet Tri-Colour Cartridge	28.89 each
HP Thinkjet/Quietjet Cartridge	12.13 each
HP Deskjet Tri-Colour Cartridge Refill	16.00 each

Inkjet Refills (Twin Packs) for Canon BJ-10/20, BJ300, HP Deskjet. Available in Black, Cyan, Magenta,Yellow, Red, Blue, Brown, Light Green, Dark Green and Gold.
1 Pack £11.00, 2+Packs £10.60 ea, 5+ Packs £9.95 ea.

HP Laserjet II/III Toner Cartridge	44.51 each
HP Laserjet IIP/IIIP Toner Cartridge	53.14 each

Ring For Inkjets & Toners Not Listed.

Miscellaneous Items

Roll 1000 31/2" Disk Labels	8.99
31/2" Disk Cleaning Kit	2.99
Parallel Printer Cable (1.8m)	3.99
Mouse Mat	2.99
CPU & Monitor Dust Cover	5.49
Monitor Dust Cover	4.99
80 Column Printer Dust Cover	3.99
Amiga 500 Dust Cover	3.99
Amiga 600 Dust Cover	3.99
Amiga 1200 Dust Cover	3.99

All Prices INCLUDE VAT (@ 171/2%) & UK DELIVERY

0543 250377 Ring us or send cheques to: **0543 250377**
Owl Associates Ltd, Dept 213, Owl House,
5 The Brambles, Lichfield, Staffs WS14 9SE
Official Government & Educational orders welcome

VISA

E & OE

10% OFF EVERYTHING

OFFER ENDS 30TH JUNE 1994

TO PERSONAL CALLERS ONLY!
Excludes Books And Special Offers

SPECIAL OFFER

FINE ARTIST
CREATIVE WRITER

With This Ad. £29.95 each

WE WILL DEMO ANY CD-ROM TITLE!

* NEW RELEASES * NEW RELEASES *

WHO SHOT JOHNNY ROCK CD - 35.95
PAGAN ULTIMA VIII CD - £45.95
MEGARACE CD - £29.95
MYST CD - £34.95

MEGARACE CD-ROM £19.99

When Purchased With Any CD-ROM Drive

CD-ROM DRIVES

PANASONIC 562B DOUBLE SPEED
Plugs Directly Into Soundblaster Pro Or Soundblaster 16

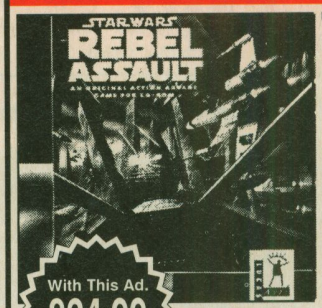
FITTING SERVICE AVAILABLE TO PERSONAL CALLERS

SONY CDU33A DOUBLE SPEED
Complete With Interface Card Or Plugs In Orchid Soundwave 32

£139.99

KINGS QUEST 6 CD-ROM £19.99

LIMITED QUANTITY ... SO HURRY ...



With This Ad. £24.99 SPECIAL OFFER

TORNADO CD-ROM £19.99 (Limited Quantity)

OPEN UNTIL 7PM MON TO FRI
5:30PM ON SAT



"Why CD-ROM Was Invented!"

BIRMINGHAM'S BEST!

* VISA * ACCESS * MASTERCARD * SWITCH * AMEX *

FREE ADVICE TO PERSONAL CALLERS

Knowledge BOX

1334 Warwick Road,
Olton
Birmingham
B27 6PR

ALL PRICES EX. VAT & CARRIAGE

TEL 021 706 4440

WORLD CUP Dream Team

US Gold and HMV are pulling out all the stops to promote US Gold's World Cup USA '94, the only official game of the 1994 World Cup football championship.

Buy *World Cup USA '94* in any branch of HMV and you can enter the US Gold World Cup Dream Team Fantasy Challenge – a competition that's just like the one David Baddiel runs on the telly, only good. Here's how it works.

WIN PRIZES WORTH £3,500!

1 You order or buy the game in an HMV store.

2 You pick up a competition leaflet in HMV that lists all the players.

3 You choose 11 players and write their numbers, names and positions on the form provided. They must be from at least nine different national squads and include one goalkeeper, four defenders, three midfielders and three strikers. Ed and Richard's hot selection is loitering elsewhere on the page, so you'd do well to ignore all the players they've chosen.

4 You name the team, stuff the form in a post-box and let the modern marvel of Freepost do the rest.

5 You wait with baited breath for the start of the tournament on 17 June 1994.

6 528 grown men chase leather balls over a four-week period and, depending on how your players perform, your team scores points:

+4 points if any defender (including the goalkeeper) keeps a clean sheet

-2 points for every goal a defender (including the goalkeeper) concedes

+3 points for every goal that one of your players scores

-2 points for every own goal conceded by one of your defenders

+1 point for every goal that is scored in a penalty shoot-out

7 At the end of the compo there'll be winners galore, and you could be one of them.

So, get yourself down to HMV and get a load of *World Cup USA '94*. PCF

...AND JUST LOOK AT WHAT YOU CAN WIN

The top five managers will each win a pair of season tickets for the UK team of their choice, plus £100-worth of HMV vouchers and a bumper pack of World Cup memorabilia including sweaty jock-straps *(surely baseball caps – Ed)*, T-shirts and mugs. The overall winner will also receive a pair of tickets to the 1995 Coca Cola Cup Final.

The next five highest scoring managers win a football strip of their choice, HMV vouchers to the value of £50, and the World Cup goodies.

20 runners-up win World Cup T-shirts and a subscription to one of Future Publishing's awesome computer and video game magazines.

THE RULES

1 When you get to HMV and have bought the game, you can pick up a leaflet which contains the full rules.
2 But the general gist is that cheats never prosper.
3 And that fools rush in where angels take a break.
4 And US Gold is pretty much in charge.
5 So don't come crying to *PC FORMAT* if you don't win. And that means you, Paul Gascoigne.

Competition leaflets will be available when you pre-order *World Cup USA '94* from 17 May 1994.

Ed and Richard's Team That's the best name we could come up with, maybe you can do better.



Agbonavbare, Nigeria
It's patently obvious why we've chosen 4'2" Agbonavbare in goal – his name means 'Tree that weeps in the wind and keeps a clean sheet' in Swahili.

Ndip-Akem, Cameroon
The 'Roonies entertained us in Italia '90 with their flowing footy and blatant fouling, that's why Ndip is shoring up the defence – with six-inch nails.

Gu, South Korea
Little is known about this willowy central defender, except that forwards always get stuck on him (geddit?).

Blind, Holland
Blind by name, eagle-eyed by nature. At least that's what we're hoping.

Geiger, Switzerland
HR has subtly changed his name, but it didn't fool your sharp-witted talent scouts. Get in there and scare 'em Gigey.

Yankov, Bulgaria
He's only the best left-of-centre midfielder called Yankov playing in this year's finals.

Boffin, Belgium
Cool, calm, and calculating, Boffin controls the centre of the park and makes Joe 90 looks like a string puppet. *(Er, Joe 90 is a string puppet – Ed)*

Hassler, Germany
One of the best players in the modern game, Hassler's annoying nagging is second to none.

Ha, South Korea
Because that's what we'll be saying when he bangs in a hat trick in his opening match.

Goikoetxea, Spain
Crazy name, crazy guy. Spain's leading scorer is famous for being the hot striker whose name is on the tip of nobody's tongue.

Beschastnikh, Russia
Famous for inventing a part of the Yuritonov nuclear fission plant, Beschy lives in a luxury hovel in Moscow. And he's good at football.

Diggers

Open cast or deep shaft? Does anyone care? Richard Longhurst definitely doesn't dig.



Funny how your diggers get almost as bored as you, isn't it?

How dull can game ideas get? Town planning is one thing, but mining? Purlease. How can anyone get excited at the prospect of sending little brown men (the imaginatively named diggers of the title) deep into a planet to mine an assortment of gemstones? Oooh, but the excitement doesn't end there, when you've found the treasures, you have to take them to the bank on the surface, swap 'em for cash and buy some equipment to help with your mining effort. You win when you've earnt a certain amount of cash, and lose if the enemy diggers make loads of money before you do, or your diggers die. Not particularly inspiring as game ideas go, and its execution is even worse.



Carrying a pocketful of gems, the trusty digger returns home to base, where he can exchange them for a fistful of Zargian dollars.

How can anyone get excited at the prospect of sending little brown men deep into a planet to mine an assortment of gemstones?

The gameplay essentially boils down to two options: either trawling religiously through the earth, or dashing off to beat up the enemy before they do the same to you. It's monumentally tedious, and even though later levels are spiced up with more baddies and some enormous imaginatively designed levels, it's still little more than a trudge-'em-up. To make matters worse, the control system is hopelessly inadequate, requiring large numbers of clicks to perform even the simplest tasks, which is frustrating when what you really need are quick reactions to direct your diggers out of danger.

Undermined

As if all that wasn't bad enough, your diggers have been given personalities, meaning that if they get bored they might go off and do their own thing. One minute your mining operation is running smoothly, the next the whole thing's gone haywire because your diggers aren't doing what you told them to. Ridiculous. The bank is also a pathetic attempt to enhance the gameplay – the gems in which you're allowed to trade change at random. One minute you can swap gold for cash, and the next you can't. This inevitably leads to more fruitless pointing and clicking while you wait for the right commodities to come up.

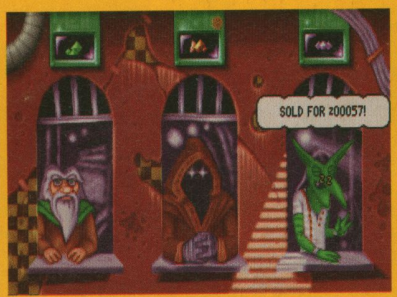
The CD version benefits from 30 minutes of CD-quality music, and a singularly unimpressive intro sequence that's only remarkable because of its total lack of *3D Studio*-produced rendered images. A series of unanimated scene-setting pictures scroll by, a soldier jerks into the distance, getting smaller with each subsequent frame, with you left wondering how Millennium has managed to get left so far behind in the intro sequence stakes. And, for that matter, with the addictive delights of *The Settlers* entertaining gameplayers across the land on page 68, you begin to wonder how Millennium managed to fall at the first hurdle in the gameplay stakes. *Diggers* simply isn't fun to play, and it's quite unbelievable that nobody pointed out this minor fact when the game was being developed and there was time to either rescue the game or kill it before it offended the general public. PCF

AND YOU THOUGHT ARTHUR SCARGILL WAS ODD

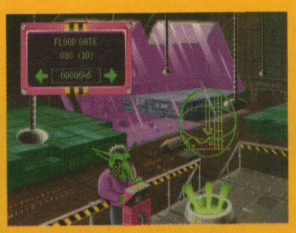
There's more to *Diggers* than digging for gems. You have to deal with strange alien entities and even buy stuff too. Wow.



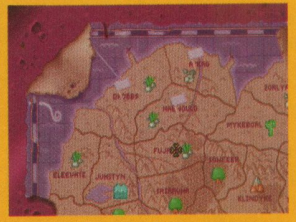
In case you were wondering what Ed 'Resolutions' Ricketts was up to before he joined *PC FORMAT*, he was mining controller on the planet Zarg. Come to see him to choose where to dig next.



Here's that bank interaction screen in full. Click on the clerks, and if you've got the gem pictured above, it's sold – no bartering or haggling allowed. Why aren't the gems just sold automatically?



Shop – buy things here.



Map – choose the next zone.

Looking elsewhere

Don't settle for *Diggers*.

Watch out for...

The Settlers
Blue Byte, reviewed on page 68

Coming soon

Theme Park
Bullfrog's latest game will be reviewed next month.

Outpost
The release of Sierra's serious look at mining in space has been delayed until June. This SVGA isometric strategy spectacular has been designed by a former NASA employee and features numerous rendered sequences.

Diggers

£34.99 (£39.99 on CD)
Millennium ☎ 0223 844894

Minimum system: 640K; VGA; 386; mouse; hard disk (6Mb)
Optional extras: Sound Blaster

For
- Mining can be fun
- Can't it?

Against
- Incredibly tedious gameplay
- Clumsy, inappropriate interface
- Dull, dull, dull graphics

PCF Rating 41%

DIRECT SOFTWARE

DEPT PCF065C Unit 3, Cross Keys Shopping Mall, St Neots, Cambridgeshire PE19 2AU
TELEPHONE ORDER LINE: 0908 379550
FAX: 0908 277142

ORDER HOTLINE 0908 379550

BLANK DISKS

ALL OUR DISKS COME WITH A 100% ONE FOR ONE GUARANTEE

RECYCLED COVER DISKS		DS/DD		DS/HD	
50	£10.99	50	£16.00	50	£22.00
100	£20.00	100	£30.00	100	£40.00
250	£45.00	250	£70.00	250	£90.00
500	£85.00	500	£135.00	500	£170.00
1000	£150.00	1000	£255.00	1000	£320.00

All our disks include FREE labels

We will not be beaten on price!

Please make cheques and P.O payable to:-

DIRECT SOFTWARE, DEPARTMENT PCF065C UNIT 3, CROSSKEYS SHOPPING MALL, ST NEOTS, CAMBRIDGESHIRE PE19 2AU.

UK MAINLAND - DELIVERY FREE

OTHER AREAS - PRICES ON APPLICATION

All parcels are sent out by recorded delivery. All items subject to availability. All prices subject to change without notice. E&OE. Please allow for cheque clearance.

Please charge my Access/Visa No: ☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐ Expiry Date: ☐☐/☐☐

ORDER FORM VISA MasterCard Access CUSTOMER NUMBER

Please supply me with the following for

Computer .....

TITLES

POST + PACKAGING	
TOTAL	

DATE: .....

NAME: .....

ADDRESS: .....

POST CODE: .....

TEL: .....

PC FORMAT JUNE 94

NEW! Shareware From 10p

We are proud to anounce the release of our ***BRAND NEW*** disk catalogue, using ***Visual Basic for DOS*** we have produced the BEST catalogue available in the U.K. Unlike the other shareware vendors we allow you to place as many compressed programs onto the supplied disks as will fit. This can take program prices down to as little as ***10p !!*** Our catalogue has a Windows type interface and full context sensitive help with a choice of 14,000 dos & Windows v3.x programs, the program works out how many disks are needed from your selection and produces an order for you. Our existing customers say we have an *"..**Excellent Service**"*, with,*"..**Superb value..**"*, including a *"..**Vast range..**"* of shareware, in all *"**You are the BEST..**"*. To find out why we *"..**are the BEST..**"* send two first class stamps ***NOW*** & we'll send you the **BEST disk catalogue in the U.K.** ***(Only available on 3.5" disks, Hard disk needed!)***

Deluxe Games II

"..Simply put this is the best compilation of PC games available - commercial or otherwise..". 92% Rating PC FORMAT

"..Good Value!..the balance is towards QUALITY..especialy if you want games to suit a variety of skills and ages" PC review

This compilation is aimed at ***QUALITY*** not quanity, the 70 *(DOS based)* games that make up this compilation include ***Wolfenstein 3-D***, ***Cosmo's Cosmic Adventure*** & ***Jill of the Jungle***, these are some of the *best* games available today. Our menu driven installation program installs ***over 22mb*** of games from the supplied 14 x 3.5" disks, and there is also a menu system already setup to run them all. For a **Special Offer** we are offering this at ***ONLY £15.95*** *+1.25 p&p (£17.20).* Min. Vga Screen; 640k & Hard Disk.

MasterCard **Benetech Systems** VISA

Dept PCF, 144 Fosse Way, Syston,
Leicester LE7 1NG. Tel 0533 600033

** Shareware may require a separate payment to the author if found useful **

LOOK! NO VAT TO ADD NO CREDIT CARD SURCHARGE

ONLY THE BEST

Access **COMPUTER SOFTWARE** VISA

7 CLEEVE WOOD RD, DOWNEND, BRISTOL BS16 2SF

TEL: 0272 401315/401316

CALLERS BY APPOINTMENT ONLY

THE BEST VALUE AND THE BEST SERVICE

OTB CODE OF PRACTICE

1. CREDIT CARDS ARE NOT CHARGED UNTIL GOODS ARE DESPATCHED.
2. THE CUSTOMER IS ALWAYS INFORMED WHETHER GOODS ARE IN STOCK OR NOT.

MON-FRI 10.00am-7.00pm SAT 10am-5pm SUN TIMES VARY. ANSWERPHONE AT ALL OTHER TIMES.

All prices include VAT. UK postage add £1.00 per item. Prices subject to change. Access and Visa accepted. Please allow 7 days for cheques.

PC TITLES

A 320 AIRBUS – US £28.99
ACES OF PACIFIC + MISSIONS £28.99
ACES OF THE DEEP £29.99
ACES OVER EUROPE £27.99
AIR BUCKS V1-2 ..... £21.99
AIR FORCE COMMANDER £21.99
AIR COMBAT CLASSICS £28.99
ALIEN BREED £18.99
ALONE IN THE DARK 2 ..... £28.99
ALONE IN THE DARK + JACK £15.99
ARCHON ULTRA £22.99
ARMOURED FIST ..... £CALL
ARMOUR GEDDON £15.99
AIR TRANSPORT PILOT £23.99
ANIMATION WORKSHOP ..... CALL
A TRAIN £15.99
AV8B HARRIER £25.99
AWARD WINNERS II £22.99
B17 DOGFIGHT £35.99
BATTLE ISLE 2 ..... £CALL
BATTLE ISLE 93 ..... £18.99
BATTLES OF THE SOUTH PACIFIC £27.99
BEAUTY AND THE BEAST £18.99
BENEATH A STEEL SKY £24.99
BETRAYAL AT KRONDOR £27.99
BLOODNET £27.99
BLUE AND THE GREY £24.99
BODYBLOWS £18.99
BREAKLINE £16.99
BRUTAL SPORTS FOOTBALL £18.99
CAMPAIGN 2 ..... £24.99
CANNON FODDER £23.99
CAR & DRIVER £24.99
CARRIERS AT WAR II £27.99
CHAOS ENGINE ..... £CALL
CHESSMASTER 3000 ..... £23.99
CHESSMASTER 4000 TURBO £23.99
CIVILIZATION £24.99
CIVILIZATION – WINDOWS £27.99
CLASH OF STEEL £23.99
CLUB MANAGER £23.99
COMMANCHE OVER THE EDGE £16.99
COMMANCHE MAXIMUM OVERKILL £22.99
DAEMONSGATE £20.99
DARK SUN SHATTERED LANDS £28.99
DAY OF THE TENTACLE £26.99
DELTA V £29.99
DETROIT £24.99
D/GENERATION - WINDOWS £15.99
DIGGERS £24.99
DOS 6.2 UPGRADE £55.00
DUNE 2 ..... £22.99
DUNGEON HACK £23.99
ELDAR SCROLLS ARENA £26.99
ELITE 2 ..... £21.99
EMPIRE DELUXE £27.99
EUROPEAN CHAMPIONS £19.99
EVASIVE ACTION £22.99
EVEN MORE INCREDIBLE MACHINE £24.99
EXCELLENT GAMES £25.99
F1 ..... £18.99
F14 FLEET DEFENDER £27.99
FALCON 3.0 + F15 STRIKE EAGLE III £35.99
FALCON 3-0 MIG29 ADD ON £16.99
FANTASY EMPIRES £22.99
FIRE AND ICE £19.99
FLASHBACK £23.99
FLIGHT SIMULATOR 5 ..... £29.99
FLIGHT SIM 5 SCENERY NEW YORK £15.99
FLIGHT SIM 5 SCENERY PARIS £15.99
FLIGHT SIM 5 SCENERY SAN FRANCISCO £24.99
FLIGHT SIM 5 SCENERY WASHINGTON £24.99
FLIGHT SIM TOOL KIT £30.99
FORMULA 1 GRAND PRIX £27.99
FREDDY PHARKAS £24.99
FRONT PAGE SPORTS FOOTBALL PRO £24.99
FURY OF THE FURRIES £21.99
GABRIEL KNIGHT £24.99
GENESIA £21.99
GLOBAL DOMINATION £24.99
GOBLINS 3 ..... £24.99
GREAT NAVAL BATTLES £24.99
GREAT NAVAL BATTLES 2 ..... £24.99
GUNSHIP 2000 ..... £24.99
HARRIER JUMPJET + TASKFORCE £35.99
HEIRS TO THE THRONE £27.99
HIGH COMMAND £27.99
HIRED GUNS £24.99
HISTORY LINE £24.99
INDY JONES FATE OF ATLANTIS £23.99
IN EXTREMIS £23.99
INFERNO ..... £CALL
INCA 2 ..... £30.99
INCREDIBLE TOONS £24.99
INDY CAR RACING £27.99
INNOCENT UNTIL CAUGHT £24.99
JURASSIC PARK £22.99
KASPAROVS GAMBIT £27.99
KINGMAKER £23.99
KINGS QUEST VI £27.99
LANDS OF LORE £22.99
LEGACY + RETURN OF PHANTOM £35.99
LEGEND OF KYRANDIA 2 HAND OF FATE £23.99
LEISURE SUIT LARRY VI £24.99
LEMMINGS 2 THE TRIBES £14.99
LEMMINGS DOUBLE PACK £24.99
LINKS 386 PRO £27.99
LINKS 386 PRO COURSES: £15.99
LITIL DIVIL £24.99
LORDS OF POWER £25.99
LOST IN TIME £26.99
LOST VIKINGS £21.99
LOTUS ULTIMATE CHALLENGE £21.99
MASTERS OF ORION £27.99
MAVIS BEACON TYPING V2 ..... £23.99
MERCHANT PRINCE £27.99
MICRO MACHINES £19.99
MICROSOFT ARCADE £15.99
MICROSOFT CREATIVE WRITER £32.99
MICROSOFT FINE ARTIST £32.99
MICROSOFT GOLF £29.99
MIGHT & MAGIC 4 ..... £30.99
MIGHT & MAGIC 5 ..... £30.99
MONKEY ISLAND 2 ..... £21.99
MORTAL KOMBAT £19.99
NFL COACHES CLUB FOOTBALL £22.99
NHL ICE HOCKEY £27.99
NICK FALDO GOLF £24.99
NOMAD £19.99
OMAR SHARIF'S BRIDGE £24.99
OVERDRIVE £19.99
PACIFIC STRIKE £29.99
PACIFIC WAR £25.99
PATRICIAN £21.99
PATRIOT £27.99
PERFECT GENERAL TRILOGY £27.99
PINBALL DREAMS £22.99
PINBALL FANTASIES £23.99
POLICE QUEST 4 ..... £24.99
POPULOUS 2 ..... £25.99
PREMIER MANAGER 2 ..... £21.99
PRINCE OF PERSIA 2 ..... £24.99
PRIVATEER £29.99
PRIVATEER SAP £13.99
PRIVATEER RIGHTEOUS FIRE £13.99
QUATRE POLE £23.99
QUEST FOR GLORY 4 ..... £24.99
RAILROAD TYCOON £13.99
RAILROAD TYCOON DELUXE £24.99
RALLY £22.99
RAVENLOFT £27.99
RED BARON + MISSION DISK £28.99
RED HELL ..... £CALL
RETURN TO ZORK £28.99
REUNION £25.99
RINGWORLD £24.99
RISE OF THE ROBOTS ..... £CALL
RULES OF ENGAGEMENT 2 ..... £27.99
SABRE TEAM ..... £CALL
SAM & MAX £24.99
SCRABBLE £20.99
SETTLERS ..... £CALL
SHADOW OF THE COMET £24.99
SHADOWCASTER £27.99
SHERLOCK HOLMES LOST FILES £24.99
SIM CITY 2000 ..... £22.99
SIM FARM £21.99
SIMON THE SORCEROR £24.99
SINK OR SWIM £17.99
SPACE HULK £27.99
SPEED BALL 2 ..... £12.99
SSN-21 SEAWOLF £27.99
STARLORDS £27.99
STAR TREK 2 JUDGEMENT RITES £27.99
STONEKEEP ..... £CALL
STREETFIGHTER 2 ..... £18.99
STRIKE COMMANDER £29.99
STRIKE COMMANDER SAP £13.99
STRIKE COMMANDER TACTICAL OPS £13.99
STRONGHOLD £21.99
STUNT ISLAND £28.99
SUB WAR 2050 ..... £27.99
SVGA HARRIER £27.99
SYNDICATE £27.99
SYNDICATE DATA DISK £15.99
TERMINATOR RAMPAGE £23.99
TFX £27.99
TORNADO £27.99
TORNADO OP DESERT STORM £15.99
UFO ENEMY UNKNOWN £27.99
ULTIMA 7 ..... £24.99
ULTIMA 7 PTII SERPENTS ISLE £27.99
ULTIMA 8 PAGAN £29.99
ULTIMA 8 PAGAN SAP £15.99
ULTIMA UNDERWORLD £24.99
ULTIMA UNDERWORLD 2 ..... £24.99
UNLIMITED ADVENTURES £22.99
UNNECESSARY ROUGHNESS £24.99
V FOR VICTORY 3 ..... £28.99
V FOR VICTORY 4 ..... £24.99
VICTORY AT SEA ..... £CALL
WAR IN RUSSIA G- GRIGSBY £27.99
WARLORDS 2 ..... £27.99
WEREWOLF ..... £CALL
WIZARD £27.99
WOLFSTEIN 3D £14.99
XANTH £24.99
X-WING £26.99
X-WING IMPERIAL PURSUIT £32.99
X-WING B-WING £14.99

CD ROM TITLES

7TH GUEST £31.99
7TH GUEST + DUNE £36.99
10TH ANNIVERSARY £31.99
ACTION 16 CD £22.99
ADVANTAGE TENNIS £18.99
ALONE IN DARK + JACK IN DARK £16.99
AIR TRANSPORT PILOT- USA £55.00
B17 + SILENT SERVICE II £28.99
BATTLE ISLE II £30.99
BENEATH A STEEL SKY ..... £CALL
BLOODNET £30.99
CASTLES 2 ENHANCED £30.99
CHALLENGE PACK £25.99
CHESSMASTER 3000 PRO £34.99
COMMANCHE MAXIMUM OVERKILL £30.99
CONSPIRACY £28.99
CRITICAL PATH £30.99
DARKSEED ..... £CALL
DARKSUN SHATTERED LANDS £27.99
DAY OF THE TENTACLE £27.99
DIGGERS ..... £CALL
DRACULA UNLEASHED £31.99
DRAGONSPHERE £25.99
DUNE £33.99
DUNGEON HACK £24.99
ELITE 2 ..... £25.99
ERIC THE UNREADY £22.99
EYE OF THE BEHOLDER 3 ..... £25.99
F15 III STRIKE EAGLE £28.99
F117A +F15 II £28.99
FANTASY EMPIRES £23.99
FLIGHT SIM TOOLKIT £31.99
GABRIEL KNIGHT £28.99
GOBLIINS 3 ..... £CALL
GOLDEN 7 COMPILATION £31.99
GREAT NAVAL BATTLES £25.99
HELL CAB ..... £CALL
HISTORY LINE £25.99
INDIANA JONES FATE OF ATLANTIS £27.99
INCA 2 ..... £34.99
IRON HELIX £25.99
JOURNEY MAN PROJECT £25.99
JURASSIC PARK £25.99
JUTLAND £35.99
KINGS QUEST VI £29.99
LABYRINTH OF TIME £25.99
LANDS OF LORE £27.99
LASER SQUAD £14.99
LAURA BOW 2 ..... £27.99
LAWNMOWER MAN £34.99
LEADERBOARD COLLECTION £24.99
LEGEND OF KYRANDIA £28.99
LEISURE SUIT LARRY 6 ..... £28.99
LEMMINGS DOUBLE PACK £25.99
LINKS COLLECTION £32.99
LOOM £27.99
LOST IN TIME 1+2 ..... £30.99
MAD DOG MCCREE £29.99
MAN ENOUGH ..... £CALL
MAVIS BEACON TYPING V2 ..... £28.99
MEGARACE £24.99
MICROCOSM £33.99
MICROSOFT ART GALLERY £39.99
MICROSOFT BEETHOVEN £39.99
MICROSOFT CINEMANIA '94 ..... £39.99
MICROSOFT DINOSAURS £39.99
MICROSOFT ENCARTA '94 ..... £79.99
MICROSOFT GOLF £31.99
MICROSOFT MOZART £39.99
MICROSOFT MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS £39.99
MONKEY ISLAND £27.99
MYST £37.99
NOMAD £20.99
OUTPOST £31.99
PATRICIAN ..... £CALL
POLICE QUEST 4 ..... £28.99
PROTOSTAR £25.99
QUEST FOR GLORY 4 ..... £28.99
RAVENLOFT £29.99
REBEL ASSAULT £28.99
RED SHIFT ..... £CALL
RETURN OF THE PHANTOM £28.99
RETURN TO ZORK £31.99
RINGWORLD £25.99
RISE OF ROBOTS ..... £CALL
SAM & MAX £29.99
SHADOWCASTER ..... £CALL
SHADOWORLDS £14.99
SHERLOCK HOLMES 1 ..... £31.99
SHERLOCK HOLMES 2 ..... £31.99
SHERLOCK HOLMES 3 ..... £31.99
SPELLCASTING TRIPLE PACK £25.99
STAR TREK 25TH ANNIVERSARY ..... £CALL
STONE KEEP ..... £CALL
STRIKE COMMANDER £32.99
SVGA HARRIER £29.99
TFX £31.99
THE HORDE £38.99
TONY LA RUSSA 2 ..... £29.99
TORNADO £30.99
UFO ENEMY UNKNOWN £28.99
ULTIMA SERIES 1-6 ..... £36.99
ULTIMA 7 ..... £30.99
ULTIMA 8 PAGAN £36.99
ULTIMA UNDERWORLD 1+ 2 ..... £30.99
ULTIMA UNDERWORLD + WING COM 2 ..... £30.99
WING COMMANDER 2 DELUXE £30.99
WOLFPACK £22.99
WORLDS OF XEEN £33.99

SPECIAL OFFERS

HARDWARE

PANASONIC 562B CDROM £169.99
(£144.67 + VAT)
ZI FI STEREO SPEAKERS £32
SOUNDBLASTER PRO £96

CD TITLES

DAY OF THE TENTACLE £27.99
INDIANA JONES
FATE OF ATLANTIS £27.99
LOOM £27.99
MEGARACE £24.99
MICROSOFT ENCARTA 94 ..... £79.99
REBEL ASSAULT £28.99

PC TITLES

COMANCHE MAXIMUM OVERKILL £22.99
FRONTIER ELITE 2 ..... £21.99
SIM CITY 2000 ..... £22.99
LEMMINGS 2 THE TRIBES £14.99

Evasive Action

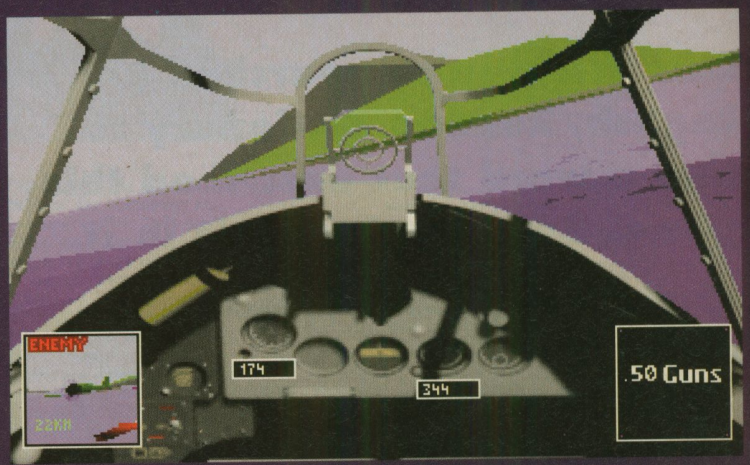
Crawling out from under a desk Rob Pegley looked sheepish. "When you said 'Take *Evasive Action*' I thought you meant..."

At last, here's a flight sim with simple missions, plenty of action, and you don't need 10 pairs of hands to play it. But should we all use our nine pairs of hands that are now free to reach for our wallets and buy a copy? Well, maybe not. Granted, *Evasive Action* is simple to control, avoids much of the bureaucracy that bogs down its competitors and offers some fast shoot-'em-up action, but that's it. And, although it sounds more than enough on paper, in practice it leaves you yearning for more.

In the short term, *Evasive Action* has instant appeal. More of a game than a simulator, you can indulge in frantic dogfights, perform crazy stunts at high speed and play cat and mouse with your opponents. The graphics are simple but effective, and it's an enjoyable romp. But just as you start to get to grips with the gameplay and think the real fun is about to begin, you realise you're about done with it.

Evasive Action is not the saviour of all flight sims, it's more a kind of Moses

To reinforce the feeling of arcade gameplay (rather than PC simulation) there are no missions. Instead there are three modes of play and four scenarios in which to employ them. Dogfights are a duel to the death – straightforward shoot-'em-ups in which you carry out stunts to re-arm. Air Races have you negotiating stunts at speed, and then there's the Attacker mode – almost aerial tag.



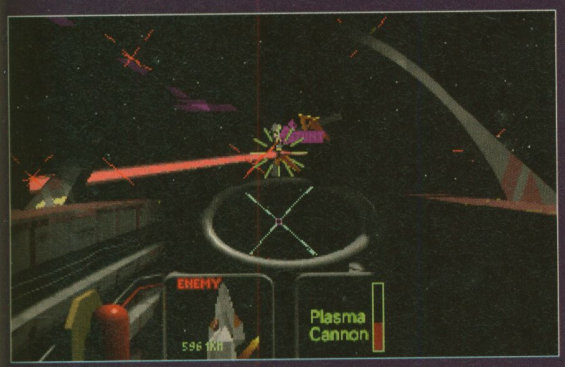
Cat and mouse, or simple dogfight. Whatever your pet favourite, *Evasive Action* can provide it. Did we mention the famous goldfish manoeuvres?

Tricky Fokkers

You'd think that these three simple forms of air combat would have changed over the years, but apparently not. From the Triplanes of WWI to the clash of 21st-century spaceships the action is unchanged. Speeds vary, knobs and dials are altered but the action is the same. From metaphorically sticking a wet finger in the air with your 1917 Sopworth Camel, through gaining basic instruments for your WWII encounters, to radar (hurrah) with 1990s MiGs, you see the progress of flying machines. Even fighting the Sonishi Laserman of year 2064 isn't that different to facing the tricky Fokkers of WWI.

Evasive Action is not the saviour of flight sims, it's more a kind of Moses. It opens up your eyes to the world of aerial combat, parts the waters, guides you into the promised land, but then leaves you stranded on the muddy bank on the other side.

Evasive Action is too simple to have any longevity and, while the shoot-'em-up action comes thick and fast, it leaves you just as quickly. It's simply a bog-standard flight sim that doesn't bog you down in mindless detail and trivia. PCF



In the year 2064 intergalactic dogfights involve laser warfare. But, lets face it, it's much the same as it was 150 years ago. Slightly more colourful, maybe.

Looking elsewhere

A trio of WWII flight sims is about to take off.

Coming soon

Pacific Strike
Origin's follow up to *Strike Commander* is a WWII sim, see page 60 for the full review.

Pacific Air War 1942
MicroProse's next game is also a WWII sim, out any moment now.

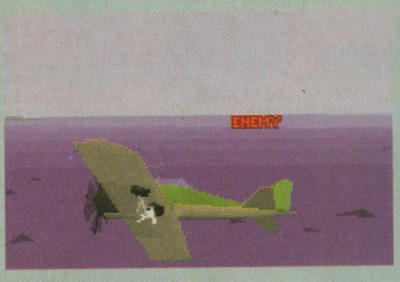
Overlord
No prizes for guessing when Rowan Software and VIE plan to complete their D-Day sim.

DOESN'T TIME FLY? When you're shooting each other to smithereens.

Tsk, when we fought the fuzzies we flew Triplanes. If an engine broke down we flapped our arms. *And* we got change from a fiver.



Then along came these newfangled aircraft with cockpits – sounds rude. All you need's a woolly scarf and goggles, don't you?





Radar? What's that when it's at home? What's wrong with the gramophone and some nice George Formby records?



As for this, well, what the hell is it? Pilots these days, they don't know they're born. Ah well, that's progress for you. Tsk tsk grumble.

Evasive Action

£34.99 Mindscape ☎ 0444 239600

Minimum system: 4Mb; VGA; 386SX (40MHz recommended); hard disk (7.5Mb)

Optional extras: Sound Blaster; mouse; joystick

For

- Uncomplicated controls
- Simple but effective graphics
- Four different time zones

Against

- Lacks variety
- Slow response on a 386

PCF Rating 66%

Red Hell

Cam Winstanley searched his English/Russian dictionary to find a word that described this game. But 'crap' wasn't in it.



You've loosened the bungee cord so the totem crushes the plastic barrel, and moved the box to reveal the door button. You can see it but, hnnnng! It's too far away. This sort of thing happens a lot in the tedious world of *Red Hell*.

Now here's a thought that pops up halfway through playing *Red Hell*. There are loads of graphic adventure games around, but just about every one features a character who's male, single and young. It makes sense – teenagers are full of life and vigour, and wouldn't think twice about setting off to save the world, impetuously blowing away a stranger or jumping into a septic tank to avoid detection.

Red Hell prompts this thought because the hero is an aging industrialist called Mark Constantine. The fact that he's not your average teenage hero makes the actions he's forced to take seem so out of character that they destroy what tiny vestiges of credibility the game might have possessed.

20-20 vision

But let's be fair and start this assassination from the beginning. The game is set in 2020, in what used to be the USA. Thanks to those pesky Ruskies developing the atom bomb first, they won WWII back in 1945 and consequently conquered most of the planet. Constantine's grown up under Communist rule and, although he's a respectable biochemist, he's also a member of a secret society dedicated to ending Soviet rule. It's a reasonable setting, fleshed out by fake newspapers and newsreels that you can look at from time to time. These feature a pleasing line in digitised graphics and speech, and are among the few good points in the game.

The characters in the game are also digitised from video images, but they're so grainy at times that you wonder why the programmers bothered. They also clash somewhat with the backgrounds, and although some of these are fairly detailed, many are simply dull.

Too annoying, too ugly and just too plain dumb to be worth playing. *Red Hell*? Exactly

It's only when you start playing the game itself that you realise you're entering the Adventure Game from Hell. For example, you click on 'Talk' and then on the only other character on the screen, but Constantine can't converse with other characters unless he's standing next to them. To move him you have to click on 'Move', but if anything's in the way Constantine stops. This is incredibly irritating, yet the manual makes out that it's some kind of additional game feature. Pah!

So your hero walks around, talking only to people he's standing next to, pushing buttons only after you've carefully positioned him next to them, and the entire sad convoluted story line unfolds before you. You're hit by coincidences from every angle, and you soon realise how silly the game is. Your hero, despite being a responsible father and business man, is forced to pick up every object, simply because you know most of them will be useful later on. In the first screen you stuff a greasy rag and a monkey wrench into the silk-lined pockets of Constantine's business suit. A few screens later you pick up a coin from a seat, and this just happens to be the correct coinage for a condom dispenser in the toilets. And what do you think the chances are that this condom will be incredibly helpful later on, eh readers?



It's the half-decent bit. Little digitised pictures wobble about and fail to lip-synch with the digitised speech.

The gameplay churns along with stupid double-agents who leave easy-to-find messages, doors hidden behind panels, and all the garbage you'd expect from some awful Fifties spy movie. Illogical plot development follows coincidence follows unlikely puzzle solution, until Constantine meets his son and saves the world. Oops, spoiled the ending, but *Red Hell* is just too annoying, too ugly and just too plain dumb to be worth playing. *Red Hell*? Exactly. PCF

Looking elsewhere

You really don't have to put up with games that are as bad as *Red Hell*. If you want futuristic adventuring, get one of these.

This one's great

Beneath a Steel Sky
£39.99 VIE, *PCF* 28, 87%

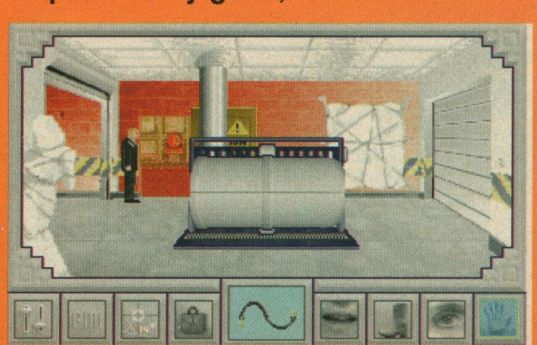
Coming soon

Under a Killing Moon
A three-CD extravaganza coming your way in June and giving free movement around rendered locations – certainly one to look out for.

IT'S ILLOGICAL, COMRADE And not particularly good, either.



Here you are, stuck in an empty storage room in an office basement, but how are you going to get out? All the doors are security sealed and you don't have the correct key card. Maybe there's something helpful in that power supply cupboard...



Corski, that was a lucky guess, eh comradski? This secret doorski enables you to go straight through to the office. Will the deskski be overflowing with helpful information about the mission? Here's hoping. It's hardly *Grushko*, is it television fanskis?

Red Hell

£39.99 Castleware/Cyberdreams
☎ 071 328 3267

Minimum system: 640K; VGA; 386; hard disk (21Mb)

Optional extras: AdLib; Sound Blaster; mouse

For

- Some neat digitised video images

Against

- Frustrating control system
- Terrible story line
- Dull dull dull graphics
- It's the Adventure Game from Hell

***PCF* Rating 23%**

PC DRIVE IN
COMPUTER CENTRE

Retail in store at -

Software Superstores
everything for YOUR computer

ALTRINCHAM
26 Shaws Road
Mon - Sat 9am - 5.30pm
Tel 061 - 928 9299

WARRINGTON
The Courtyard 50 Horsemarket St
Mon - Sat 9am - 5.30pm
Tel 0925 - 232047

WIGAN
Golborne Gallery - The Galleries
Mon - Sat 9am - 5.30pm
Tel 0942 - 826956

BOLTON
Top Floor - Shipgates Shopping Centre
Mon - Sat 9am - 5.30pm
Tel 0204 - 365851

Please check availability before making a special journey

Prices shown are VAT exclusive for trade & business users. For retail prices add 17.5% VAT prices & specification subject to change without notice

CASES (Very high quality)	Vat Exc
Mini tower 908SF	49.00
Mini tower (easy home build)	42.00
Desktop 567SF	49.00
Slimline 305SF	59.00
Tower (full) 809SF	89.00

MOTHERBOARDS - ISA	Vat Exc
386SX-40 0K cache	59.00
386DX-40 128K cache Pure	79.00

MOTHERBOARDS - VESA	Vat Exc
386DX-40 128K cache	109.00
486DLC-40 128K cache (+Co-Pro)	159.00
486SX-33 256K cache	149.00
486DX-33 256K cache	269.00
486DX-40 256K cache	269.00
486DX-50 256K cache	379.00
486DX2-50 256K cache	299.00
486DX2-66 256K cache	349.00
Pentium 60Mhz 512K cache	819.00

BAREBOARDS - VESA/PCI	Vat Exc
486 Dx4 **M/B as above + green + 72 p simm**	89.00
3/486 M/B 128K cache Dlc 2 VESA	84.00
486 M/B 256K cache 3 PCI + SCSI	239.00

MEMORY PRODUCTS	Vat Exc
256k SIMM Module 70ns 30 pin	12.00
1Mb SIMM Module 70ns 30 pin	35.00
4Mb SIMM Module 70ns 30 pin	139.00
4Mb SIMM Module 70ns 72 pin	129.00

CPU's & Co Processors	vat Exc
387SX20-40	49.00
387DX20-40 also for DLC	49.00
486DLC-40 + CoPro (Cyrix)	89.00
486SX-33 Intel	75.00
486DX-33 Intel	199.00
486DX-40 AMD	199.00
486DX-50 Intel	309.00
486DX2-50 Intel	229.00
486DX2-66 Intel	289.00
PENTIUM 60MHz	599.00
Heatsink (A must for 486DX CPU's)	4.00
Heatsink + Fan for fast 486 DX's)	9.00

ISA VIDEO CARDS	Vat Exc
MGA / CGA	15.00
256K VGA	24.00
1MB Trident SVGA	49.00

ISA Video Accelerator cards	Vat Exc
Cirrus Logic CL5422 1MB SVGA	59.00
W32i Tseng 1Mb	109.00

VESA Video Accelerator cards	Vat Exc
S3 1MB SVGA *(Top Value)*	82.00
Cirrus Logic CL5428 1MB SVGA	74.00
W/D 90C33 1MB SVGA	79.00
W/D 90C33 2MB SVGA	119.00
Diamond StealtH1MB SVGA	139.00
Diamond Viper 2MB SVGA	299.00

VESA ADAPTOR CARDS	Vat Exc
Super I/O (2HD/2FD/2S/2P/1G)	19.00
SCSI 2 Controller	119.00
Promise 4030 Cache Contoller	109.00

ISA ADAPTOR CARDS	Vat Exc
AT I/O (2S/1P/1G)	9.00
AT I/O High Speed (16550C)	19.00
IDE I/O (2HD/2FD)	12.00
Super IDE - I/O (2HD/2FD/2S/2P/1G)	10.00
SCSI-2 Controller SI-1710B	79.00

MONITORS	Vat Exc
Mitac 17" .28 /NI	449.00
Tatung 20" .28 / NI	1120.00
XYST 14" .28	179.00
XYST 14" .28 / NI	199.00
XYST 17" .26 / NI	599.00
14" Mono (paper white)	89.00

HARD DRIVES IDE 3.5"	vat Exc
130MB	150.00
170 MB	149.00
256MB	179.00
340MB	209.00
425MB	249.00
525MB	339.00
1GB fast SCSI-2	589.00
External IDE kit (Via parallel port)	89.00

FLOPPY / TAPE DRIVES	vat Exc
1.44MB Floppy drive 3.5"	29.00
1.2MB Floppy drive 5.25"	39.00
250MB Tape backup (internal)	129.00

KEYBOARDS all 102 key UK	vat Exc
Soft touch small footprint	14.00
Click touch small footprint	19.00
Click touch NanTan KB6153	26.00
CHERRY	32.00

MICE	vat Exc
Mouse (standard Cute mouse)	9.00
Mouse (Speedmouse 2)	12.75

COMMUNICATIONS	vat Exc
NE2000 compatible network card	34.00
NE2100 compatible network card	39.00
LAN Adaptor (Pocket)Novell	79.00
Fax/Modem 9600/2400bps Int	39.00
Fax/Modem 9600/2400bps pocket	79.00
Fax/Modem V32bis (14400) int	119.00
Above not BABT approved	

SOUND CARDS	vat Exc
@ = Cards with CD-ROM interface.	
Gravis Ultrasound 3D	129.00
Gravis Ultrasound 1Mb Memory U/G	40.00
Sound Galaxy BXII *(+ Speakers)*	42.54
Sound Galaxy NX Pro/xtra (+ Spkrs) @	86.00
Sound Galaxy Basic 16 @	99.99
(As Pro16 extra except no SCSI int)	
Sound Galaxy Pro16 extra (+ Mic) @	112.00
Jazz 16 (superb quality budget price)	76.59
Soundblaster II compatible	29.00
Stereo Active Speakers (8 watts/ch)	34.00

CD-ROM DRIVES	vat Exc
PANASONIC CR562B double speed (Internal with drivers & cables)	149.00
SONY + 16bit sound card + Gold CD	195.99
AT CD-ROM Interface (for Panasonic, Sony & Mitsumi drives)	19.00

BITS & PIECES	vat Exc
DC 2120 Tapes	15.00
FDD mounting kit (for 5.25" bay)	6.00
HDD Mounting Kit (for 5.25" bay)	3.00
HD FUJI Disks - Box 10 3.5"	8.50
HD Unbranded - Box 10 3.5" (Gteed)	6.80
Keyboard Extension Cable	4.80
Monitor Extension Cable	6.90
Printer Cable - Parallel	6.00
PS2 Mouse Adaptor	6.00
PS2 Keyboard adaptor	5.00
PSU "Y" Splitter cable	3.00
PSU Replacement 200 Watts	26.00
IDE Cable 3 head	3.00
FDD Cable 5 head	4.80

SOFTWARE	vat Exc
Corel Draw 3 CD Version OEM	59.00
PFS- Window works	39.00
MS Works-win + MS Publisher	69.00
MS-DOS 5 / IBM DOS 5	19.00
MS-Dos 6.2 Full Version OEM	39.00
MS-Dos 6.0 Full Version OEM	38.00
MS-Dos 6.2 Upgrade Retail	49.00
Novell Lite	24.00
Windows 3.1 OEM	29.00
Windows 3.11 (Wrkgrps) OEM	59.00
(OEM versions only supplied with hardware)	

29/4/94

WARNING

We are not the cheapest. 90% of our customers are personal callers. They don't allow us to get away with supplying cheap or shoddy goods. They demand Quality & Value, Personal Service, and Great Aftercare. They are Intelligent and well informed - they wont be fobbed off with less than the best. If you feel you measure up and would like to become one of our satisfied customers, then we still have a few vacancies. Apply in person to your nearest branch. Country membership is available for those too distant to visit us personally, but who still demand the best. Apply by phone, fax, or in writing for prompt and courteous attention.

RED HOT PC's AT FACTORY DIRECT PRICES

FASTER because we use the best

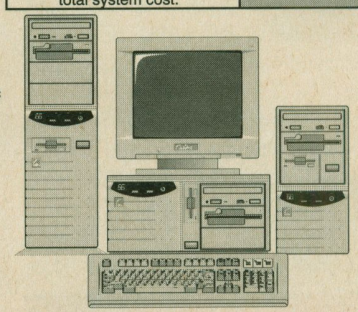
LOCAL BUS 3/486 SYSTEM SPECIFICATION

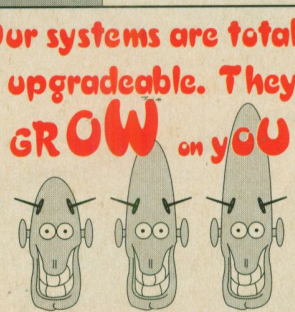
- 4Mb memory
- IBM PC/AT compatible
- VESA 2/3 slot motherboard
- AMI BIOS
- 256K secondary cache
- 1 Mb SVGA VL Bus graphics accelerator 16.7 million colours
- 3.5" floppy drive
- 102 key UK keyboard
- Desktop / mini-tower with 3 digit speed display
- Fast IDE disk controller + 2 serial 1 parallel 1 game port

No hard drive, monitor or software is included.

This is to give you maximum choice. You do not have to buy any unwanted items. Add the cost of any further items you require to arrive at your total system cost.

386DX 40 £359	486SX 25 £429
486SX 33 £445	486DLC 40* £449 (*128K cache)
486DX40 £569	486DX 50 £679
486DX2-50 £599	486DX2-66 £659





STOKE ON TRENT
Visit our NEW
FACTORY & SHOWROOM

MON - FRI 9.30 - 5 SATURDAY 9 - 1

The Glades, Festival Way
Festival Park
HANLEY
Stoke on Trent ST1 5SQ
(Festival Park is signed from A500)

MAIL ORDER
Tel 0782-204639
Fax 0782-202269

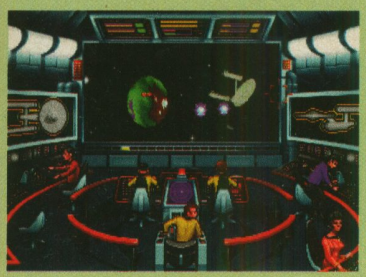
All prices exclude 17.5%VAT & Carriage
Cheques payable to
Software Superstores Ltd

Star Trek: 25th Anniversary

£49.99 Interplay ☎ 0865 390029

THE STORAGE CAPACITY OF CD-ROM makes it a truly vast frontier. Plenty of room for strange life, new civilisations, and to boldly go where no game has gone before. Since the 25th anniversary of *Star Trek* two years ago, Interplay has had plenty of time to change the game, which scored a meagre 40% in issue 7.

So did Interplay sort out the clumsy control mechanism for the landing parties, which rarely gave a chance to do anything other than follow the story line? No. Did it sort out the space battle scenes, where the Enterprise's manoeuvrability and weaponry made it feel like a World War I biplane dogfight? No. Did it sort out the simplistic puzzles? No.



As the great James Brown once sang, "Take it to the bridge!"

What Interplay has done, however, is simple and effective. The game now speaks. All the dialogue and narrative, which previously only appeared in the text windows, is now spoken by the original TV show's cast. The samples are perfect and, at last, you have a game offering speech from dreadful, but real actors, rather than just the programmer's neighbours. The 6,000 sentences of dialogue not only give the game a more rounded feel but actually set a new precedent for licensed products.

All the attention having been focussed on the speech rather than the gameplay isn't such a bad thing, since it's the tired old clichés ("He's dead Jim" etc) that Trekkies love. They're likely to buy this game for its clichés, rather than because it's a thrilling challenge, great value, or even enjoyable. It'll sit on the *Star Trek* shelf, with the model Enterprise, action figures and soundtracks, and make the *Star Trek* collection that bit more complete. Meanwhile Interplay is keeping its *Star Trek* powder dry for the *Star Fleet Academy* game, which is due out towards the end of the year and should be a corker.



Once again another unlucky chap in red cops it. You've never seen him before and you'll never see him again. Alien fodder, that's all they are.

James Binns

Minimum system: 560K; EGA; 386SX; hard disk (2Mb); CD-ROM drive; mouse
Optional extras: Sound Blaster; Pro Audio Spectrum

PCF Rating 62%

Dark Seed

COMPACT disc DATA STORAGE

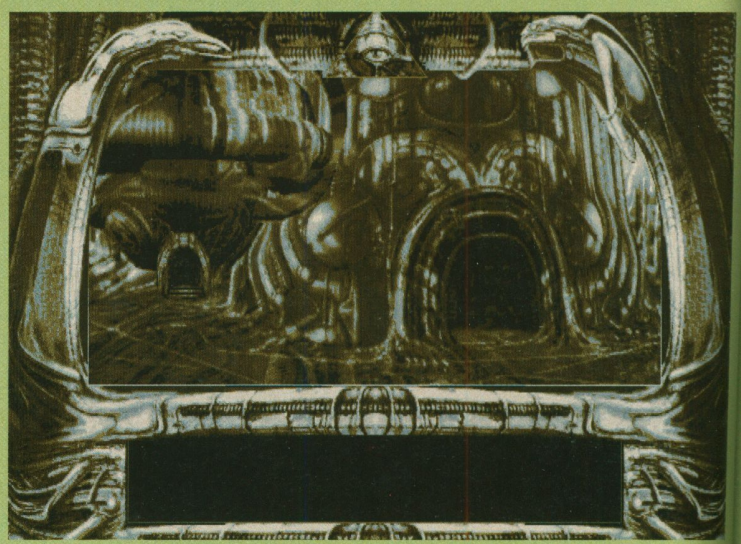
£44.99 Cyberdreams ☎ 071 328 3267

WHEN THE HELLISH *DARK SEED* was first released two years ago, its terrifying vision electrified PC games fans, who were treated to the art of Swiss surrealist H R Giger, and spoilt rotten with nightmarish cinematic sequences, real-time animation and a complex, twisting story line. And according to *PC FORMAT* it was "the closest thing yet to an interactive movie" (*PCF* 10, 81%). But can *Dark Seed* still cut the mustard?

As with *Star Trek: 25th Anniversary*, the plot and gameplay have been left much the same. You play the part of Mike Dawson who, after a night of traumatising dreams, (his head gets ripped open), wakes up with the mother of all headaches. As the plot unravels it becomes clear that Dawson is the victim of a vivisectionist experiment, part of a plan hatched by an alien civilisation to enslave humanity. The game comes into its own when you figure out how to access the Dark World, which parallels our own world, except that it's much more sinister, having been designed by Giger. You point and click Dawson around the household and neighbourhood, collecting gadgets and interacting with local folk, and you manipulate him with an icon bar. But the degree of control seems limited when compared with the likes of *Gabriel Knight*.

The original game included some snippets of speech, but this update has been given the full treatment. Dawson's narrative ranges from the helpful through to the excruciatingly embarrassing. Imagine a smooth American accent lilting excitedly: "An old library. A venerable repo-si-tory of knowledge. It guards its bounty behind a handsomely decorated structure." It does little for the brooding atmosphere of the game.

If Cyberdreams had improved the puzzle elements, given the game some decent music, added some new locations and stuck in more cinematic sequences, this would be worthy of a CD-ROM update. As it stands, 1,000 cheesy sound bites just aren't enough to deserve a higher mark than the original. The Giger designs still look great, but unfortunately the gameplay is aging rapidly.



The artwork of H R Giger crops up throughout *Dark Seed*, giving it a brooding bio-mechanical atmosphere. Much like our office, in fact.



What's your biggest nightmare? Aliens ripping your head open, or...



...waking up in a room decorated in these grotesque colours?

James Binns

Minimum system: 640K; VGA; 20MHz 286; hard disk (2Mb); CD-ROM drive
Optional extras: AdLib; Sound Blaster; joystick; mouse

PCF Rating 69%

Ravenloft: Strahd's Possession

£39.99 SSI/US Gold ☎ 021 625 3388



This fanged beast blocking your path is definitely not a friend. Slay him.

THESE ROLE-PLAYING GAMES just keep on coming. Since acquiring the *Advanced Dungeons and Dragons* license, SSI has churned out more than a dozen of these hack-'n'-slay explore-a-thons. *Ravenloft* is the latest and, in some senses, the best.



You bump into lots of scantily-clad maidens. Not very sexist, really.

As with most RPGs, *Ravenloft* begins with the character selection screens. A sultry tarot maiden deals out the options, enabling you to choose your party's gender, race, class, alignment and face. The facial selection is a nice touch, because the range is wide enough to find one that resembles you, and then it's back to the old-fashioned dice-rolling to set character strengths and weaknesses.

The intro sequence casts you as a comrade of Lord Dhelt, returning from your travels and witnessing a massive explosion which "mauls" the good lord. He's all messed up, but explains that a cut-throat blaggard has just made off with the holy symbol of Helm. You chase the thief into a forest and despatch him, but no sooner have you recovered the trinkets than a thick fog rolls in from nowhere, stealing back the goodies and carrying you off to a strange new world.

This is where the actual game begins. Your mission: to recover the treasure, uncover an evil plot and take on the nefarious vampire Strahd. The action is much as you'd expect from an RPG. Stomp around a fantasy world collecting stuff, playing with magic and slaying all manner of beasts (after all, what else are the beasts there for?). The interface for controlling the party is intuitive and easy to master. One of the game's biggest innovations (for SSI, anyway) is the movement system, which moves the 3D screens smoothly. Anyone who's played *Doom* will snort at the relatively primitive graphics, but at least SSI had a go.

But shifting RPGs on to computers should always be approached with caution. For a start, one of the best things about non-computerised RPGs is the way you can interact with real people, and have fun building up a strong team with different personalities who work together. Playing on your own and controlling every character just isn't the same. And although the PC does all the tedious pencil work, dice-rolling and number-crunching for you, that isn't what people like about RPGs anyway. Tedious drawn-out fights which end up as a battle of statistics should have gone out of fashion long ago. Aren't these games supposed to be about role-playing, as opposed to rule-playing? This game is strictly for *AD&D* old-timers. New kids on the block are much better off with the likes of *Pagan: Ultima 8* (*PCF* 32, 92%) or *Arena* (*PCF* 32, 88%).

James Binns

Minimum system: 4Mb; VGA; 33MHz 386DX; hard disk (21Mb) and a mouse
Optional extras: Sound Blaster

PCF Rating 75%

Battles of Time

PCF Recommended

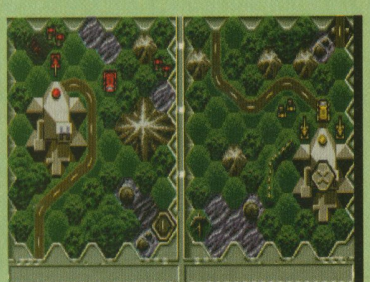
£29.99 UBI Soft ☎ 081 343 9055

THIS NEW UBI SOFT COMPILATION is more than just another budget round-up. It's a packed CD with four smashing games, all of which are perfectly playable in their own right. *Battle Isle* (*PCF* 8, 81%) is a space war game that towers over the other games in the bundle. Next up, there's *The Perfect General* (*PCF* 10, 75%), a conventional war game, which pits you against all the greatest military leaders. The easy-to-play strategy game *Mega Lo Mania* (*PCF* 10, 70%) has you playing God and managing resources for your tribe, while *First Samurai* (*PCF* 14, 81%) rounds off the CD (see our review on page 88). This collection is a great way to pick up a few top-notch games, in an easy-on-the-pocket style.

James Binns



Relive all your 'favourite' battles in strategy game *The Perfect General*.



Futuristic strategy war game *Battle Isle* offers a two-player option.

Minimum system: 640K; VGA; 386; hard disk; CD-ROM drive and a mouse
Optional extras: AdLib; Sound Blaster; joystick

PCF Rating 85%

The Ultima Trivia CD

£TBA Microforum ☎ 0101 416 656 3378

THERE IS A DUBIOUS CLAIM MADE in the title of this game – the suggestion that *Trivia* is in some way 'ultimate'. It should be called *The Fair to Middling Trivia CD*, on the grounds that it's such a badly designed game.

You're presented with three reels which reveal the question categories. The fruit machine stops, you choose a genre and you're presented with a multiple choice. Get it right and you score points, get it wrong and you lose them. It all seems simple but somehow Microforum has managed to get it all wrong.

Firstly, the relationship between the scoring and the difficulty level is so absurd it appears to be completely random. Secondly, if you get a question wrong the PC just laughs at you rather than displaying the correct answer, so you only learn anything new by accident or by constant repetition. Thirdly, the question window doesn't always display enough text, meaning that you have to fiddle around with scroll bars while the clock ticks. And finally, some of the questions are too USA-biased. Its redeeming features include the questions on sound effects, including bizarre grunts and groans, and the video sequences. But you'd be better off watching *Wheel of Fortune*. PCF

James Binns



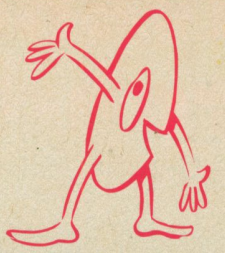
Hmmm. Now who on earth could this strange geezer be?

Minimum system: 640K; VGA; 386; hard disk (1Mb); CD-ROM drive; Windows 3.1; mouse; Sound Blaster

PCF Rating 30%

romedia
INTERACTIVE SERVICES

CD ROM MULTIMEDIA SPECIALISTS



Unit 44 • Rushington Business Park • Chapel Lane • Totton • Hampshire • SO4 4LA

TEL: 0703 871177 Fax: 0703 871155

TOP SELLING DOUBLE SPEED CD ROM SOLUTIONS

TOSHIBA 4101



- Dual speed
- CD Rom XA standard
- 300 KBS transfer rate
- Tray loading (no caddy)
- SCSI 2 interface included

Special

Including SCSI interface card and cables

Internal £239.00

External £339.00

NEC MULTISPIN 3X



- Triple Speed
- 450 kps transfer rate
- 195 ms accesstime
- 256kB cache memory

Special:-

3xi (internal) £295.00

3xe (external) £358.00

SCSI Kit for above £64.00

PANASONIC 562B/563



- 320 Access Time
- Will connect to Soundblaster Pro or 16

Sound Cards Special

Internal £149.00

Internal *(inc full kit, cards, drivers etc)*£169.00

External *(inc full kit, cards, drivers etc)*£239.00

OTHER DRIVES (INC FULL KITS)

New Mitsumi FX001D
Internal £159.00
Philips 206 Internal £189.00

New TEAC CD 50 Internal £287.00
New NEC 3XP Triple Speed Portable £399.00

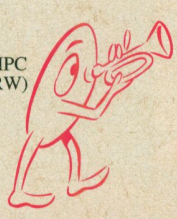
Toshiba 3401 internal inc SCSI interface £339.00
Toshiba 3401 external inc SCSI interface £448.99

Pioneer DRM 604X Quad speed, 6 discs etc.....£949.00
New Pioneer DRM 602X £499.00

ROMEDIA FIRST

Choose 3 of the following titles with any of the packages below for just £59.00 or individually for £25.00

20th Century Video Almanac
Animals of San Diego Zoo
Arthur Teacher Troubles
Battlechess
Bibles and Religions
Brittanica Family Choice
Carmen Sandiego
CD Game Pack 1
Chess Master 3000 MPC
Clipart Warehouse
Capital Hill
Dinosaur Adventure
Guinness 1993 MPC
Hot Stuff I + II
Just Grandma and Me
Jones in the Fast Lane
Kodak Photo CD Access
Kings Quest V
Loom
Lotus 123
MacMillans Childrens Dictionary
Mixed up Mother Goose
Monkey Island
Secret Weapons Luftwaffe
Sherlock Holmes Consulting Detective
Space Adventure
Space Quest IV
Space Shuttle
Stellar 7
Toolworks MPC Encycl
Return to Zork
US + World Atlas
US Atlas
World Atlas 4.0 MPC
Rebel Assault (NRW)
7th Guest
Dune
TFX
Quantum Gate
Critical Path
Iron Helix



Romedia's sole business is with multi media software & hardware.

Advice is free & simply ... a phone call away

SOUND AND VISION



New Version 3.7. **Gravis Ultrasound** 16 bit + new bonus software rated top soundcard £123.00

1MB Upgrade.....£49.00

Midi Kit.....£45.00

SCSI Interface £49.00

Reelmagic MPEG Video and Sound Card ****! The Future ... Now £349.00

Soundblaster Range





Soundblaster v2 .....£49.00

Soundblaster Pro £69.00

Soundblaster 16 .....£85.00

Soundblaster 16 MCD.....£125.00

Soundblaster 16 MCD ADSP ...£149.00

Soundblaster 16 SCSI-2 .....£149.00

Soundblaster 16 SCSI-2 ADSP.£175.00

Soundblaster AWE 32.....£225.00

Midi Kit.....£21.23

POWER PLAY SPEAKERS

C.S.150's.....£17.00

S.S. 700's £23.00

S.S. 900's £49.00

Goodmans £65.00

Roland MA7.....£139.00

JPW £125.00

Pro-Digital.....£35.00

ROMEDIA SPECIAL ONE

Panasonic 562 (inc all cables + Labtec Speakers) + Soundblaster Pro ...£229.00
Soundblaster 16.....add £40.00
Gravis Ultrasound .....add £30.00

ROMEDIA SPECIAL TWO

Toshiba 4101 Internal + speakers, kit and:- *(with SCSI interface* Soundblaster to only take up one slot).....£359.00
Gravis £369.00

ROMEDIA SPECIAL THREE

Toshiba 3401 Internal + Labtec 700 Speakers, kit etc and:-
Gravis Ultrasound *(with SCSI interface to only take up one slot)* £479.00
Soundblaster 16 ASP SCSI add ..£10.00
Soundblaster AWE 32.....£99.00

PORTABLE MULTIMEDIA

Portable Sound Plus (parallel)...£149.00
Portable Sound Plus (PCMCIA)£199.00
(SCSI interfaces for laptops with PCMCIA)
New Media PCMCIA SCSI £199.00
Adaptec Slim SCSI.....TBC
SCSI interface for parallel port
NEC Shuttle £99.00
Portable CD-Rom Drives
New NEC 3xp £339.00
NEC 38 portable.....£269.00
NEC Battery Pack £75.00

ROMEDIA TOP TEN

1. M/S Art Gallery £38.00
2. M/S Encarta £79.00
3. Groliers 1994 .....£79.00
4. JFK Assassination.....£35.00
5. TFX.....£35.00
6. Megarace.....£30.00
7. Microcosm £35.00
8. 3D Body Adventure £49.99
9. Commanche £35.00
10. Myst £30.00

THE VIDEO CONNECTION

Call Romedia The South Coast's New Rombo Premier Dealer*

New Media (Hi-Res) video capture card

- Real time capture
- True colour
- Support for accelerated video cards incl S3 and Cirrus
- Built in RGB T.V. Encoder only £279.00

T.V. Tuner: £119.95
Turn your PC into a T.V. media station

T.V. Encoder.....£119.95
Display VGA on a standard T.V. or record VGA back to a video tape

Romedia Station Limited Special:-

Media Pro Plus + T.V. Tuner....£299.00

WinTV - Capture, TV Tuner + teletext in one complete package £399.00

OTHER CARDS/ACCESSORIES AVAILABLE – CALL FOR DETAILS

A total satisfaction policy - combining competitive pricing levels with outstanding support for Macintosh; PC and Acorn/Archamides platforms

- Multiple order; educational and local government discount structure - call for details.
- Free technical advice and free on-site consultation/surveys.
- Rental facitities:- long and short term available
- Full installation, training and service available for new and existing CD Rom drives

- **ALL POSTAGE AND PACKING WITHIN THE UK IS FREE OF CHARGE**

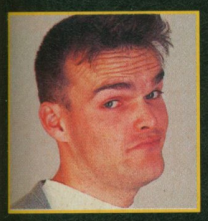
Call for free catalogue of all hardware and titles as well as a monthly updated newsletter of new titles.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

1. Faulty products will be refunded without quibble.
2. Credit card, cheque or money order required prior to goods dispatch.
3. VAT needs to be added to all quoted pricing.

VISA Access SWITCH DELTA

Price Busters



Has the world gone discount crazy? Richard Longhurst takes you into the basement and shows you some of his bargains. Games, that is.

Wolfenstein 3D

£19.99 ■ Mindscape ☎ 0444 246333

WHY HAVE COTTON WHEN YOU can have silk? Well, cotton does have advantages. It's cheaper, simpler and runs on a 286 PC... hold on, isn't that *Wolfenstein 3D* as opposed to *Doom*?

Wolfy is a classic. Pardon the unpardonable cliché, but if you've never heard of it you must have been on Mars. You play the part of B J Blazkowicz (who bears an uncanny likeness to a certain Richard Longhurst), full-time killing machine and part-time spy who's busting out from a Nazi prison. Starting with just a pistol and a knife, you yomp through a maze, collecting weapons and taking on everything the evil empire has to throw at you. They're all here, from brown shirts and



Boo! A Nazi boy-in-blue ambushes you as the door opens.

German shepherds, to the nutty Nazi himself, Adolf Hitler. The best rule to follow? If it moves, kill it.

This pack gives you all the levels of the registered shareware game plus a hint book packed with playing tips and useful maps, detailing every floor's layout, secret rooms, guards and power-ups. There are also loads of snippets about the game's conceptual history. For example, did you know that initially *Wolfenstein* was programmed as a much more complicated affair, where you could exchange uniforms and then hide dead guards? However, the idea was dropped because it slowed the game down and also required too many keyboard commands.

At the time of its original release in June 1992, *Wolfenstein* was without doubt the best shareware game ever produced. The 3D graphics still move incredibly smoothly, and the engine created by the Id team was later developed into the staggering texture-mapped *Doom* routines, which we all know and love.



A zombie makes a futile run for safety. Eat hot lead undead scum!

Mindscape is re-releasing this exciting game as a budget title and, although it's been left behind by a new generation of PC games, that doesn't mean it's any less fun to play. If you were too lazy to get yourself a shareware edition of *Wolfenstein 3D*, then its commercial re-release has just wiped out your last excuse for not getting out there and slaughtering some Nazi pig-dogs.

Minimum system: 640K; VGA; 286; hard disk (2.5 Mb)
Optional extras: AdLib; Sound Blaster; joystick; mouse

PCF Rating 75%



Log on to the computers around the maze to gain access to locked areas.



Enter the health chamber and it recharges your life bar. Very handy.



A purple-bloat-headed alien gets on the wrong end of your machine gun.



Danger lurks around every corner. Use your radar to avoid surprises.

Corridor 7

£19.99 ■ Gametek ☎ 0753 553445

THE PROBLEM WITH *CORRIDOR 7* is that even as it hits the shelves it's already outdated. *Doom* has rewritten all the rules of 3D games and left every other game engine standing. The advantage of *Corridor 7* is that games of this genre – romping around a maze, massacring all and sundry – are brilliant fun and work so well on the PC. The plot is much as you'd expect. Aliens are invading Earth via a top security installation, and you as a lone warrior have to strut around wiping them out.

The gameplay should be familiar to any of you who have ever played *Wolfenstein* or *Doom* – lots of poking your head round corners and running at bad guys, guns blazing. Rather than automapping a level as you explore it, you immediately get a full map showing the entire floor and positions of all hostile aliens. This gives the game a hunter-killer feel, but unfortunately also removes the all-important elements of surprise and exploration.

Graphically, the game runs a souped-up *Wolfenstein* engine. You can now run it in full-screen mode, and you can see through windows and gaps in doors. There's also more interaction with the scenery, featuring health chambers to charge up your life bar, force fields which you need to switch off, and computer screens which you use to obtain security clearances. The animation of the roving aliens is fairly embarrassing though – the eyeballs with guns mounted on their sides are particularly dismal.

But you can't really go far wrong with *Corridor 7*. Of course it's not as good as *Doom*, but as a budget title, coming in at only £19.99, it should be viewed as a simple indulgence in yet another mazey shoot-'em-up. And that's always a joy. →

Minimum system: 2Mb; VGA; 16MHz 386; hard disk (8Mb)
Optional extras; AdLib; Sound Blaster; joystick; mouse

PCF Rating 70%

First Samurai

£9.99 ■ UBI Soft ☎ 081 343 9055



The Samurai bloke with the sword washes his hair in the waterfall.

IF YOU WERE USING A JOYPAD you could almost convince yourself you were playing *First Samurai* on a console. And that's not meant as an insult, for although consoles are outclassed by PC simulators and RPGs, you can't normally beat them for good old-fashioned scrolling beat-'em-up games.

You control a tough little bloke bashing his way through eight huge levels. There is a tenuous plot underlying the whole thing, but don't worry too much about it, the intro sequence is a simple clichéd series of still frames.

The scrolling is handled well and the backdrops are full of detail – the only slight gripe is that the levels are perhaps a little too sprawling to give any immediate reward. They sometimes seem to drag on a bit too long. The controls aren't as responsive as they could be, and without a joystick you're in for a fiddly time.

First Samurai isn't so much an arcade adventure as a hack-fest with a few puzzles bolted on to provide extra depth. The puzzle sections are mostly either finding your way through the maze-like levels or just working out how to get somewhere without taking too many hits. It feels like a well put together game and, as part of UBI Soft's Nice Price budget range, selling at just under a tenner, it's positively rude not to have a bash.

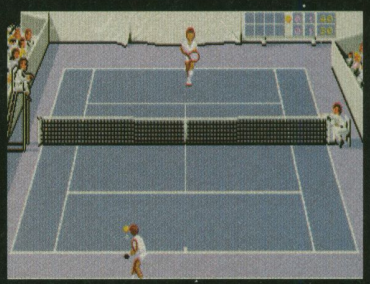
Minimum system: 640K; VGA; 286; hard disk (1.5Mb)
Optional extras: AdLib; Sound Blaster; joystick (preferably digital)

PCF Rating 81%

Jimmy Connors' Great Courts 2

£9.99 ■ Ubi Soft/Blue Byte ☎ 081 343 9055

THIS SMASHING TENNIS GAME was formerly called *Pro Tennis Tour 2* (*PCF* 4, 65%) and sold for £35, but now those decent people at UBI Soft are resurrecting it. They've changed its name (well, reverted to the name it was released under in Europe), stuck an ageing American tennis star on the cover and then slashed its price. Behold, *Jimmy Connors' Great Courts 2*.



No insane knifemen on *Jimmy Connors' Great Courts*.

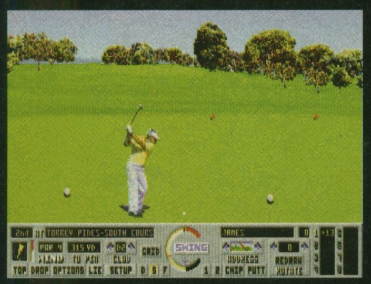
Nothing has been changed from the original game, and that's just as it should be. It's tough to get to grips with, but you can quickly reach baseline knockabout standard. The controls are good and responsive, and the serving and return routines are smooth enough to be truly enjoyable. After a few games it'll be up, up and away as you embark on your career – working your way through the tournaments and filling your mantelpiece with trophies. We liked the original and this bargain basement edition is great value for money.

Minimum system: 512K; CGA; XT; hard disk (750K)
Optional extras: AdLib, Sound Blaster; joystick

PCF Rating 70%

Links

£16.99 ■ Kixx XL
☎ 021 625 3388



Yellow and blue should never be seen. Except on a golf course.

ONE OF THE BEST-KNOWN GOLF games for the PC, *Links*, has been surpassed by *Links 386 Pro*, but this original version can download all the new courses and is just as beautiful. The scenery draws slowly, and the trade-off between beauty and gameplay means that *Links* has no tournaments. With *Links 486* in the offing, high-powered PC owners should wait for the next generation of golfing games.

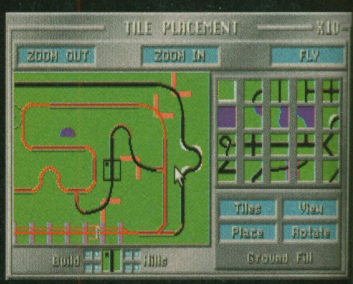
Minimum system: 640K; VGA; 286; hard disk (1.6 Mb)
Optional extras; AdLib; Sound Blaster; mouse

PCF Rating 70%

Grand Prix Unlimited

£12.99 ■ The Hit Squad ☎ 061 832 6633

WAY BACK IN SEPTEMBER 1992, *PCF* declared that the 3D graphics in *GPU* were a disappointment, but still gave it 73%. In those halcyon days *IndyCar Racing* (*PCF* 28, 88%) was just a glimmer in Papyrus's eye. Now the stakes have been raised and this new budget release looks jerky and weak. The best thing about *GPU* is the track editor, which enables you to design your own high-speed courses, right down to the cameramen and lakes around the route. The game has all the classic tracks and big names from the real Grand Prix. It runs, if slowly, on a 286, and at such a low price it's definitely worth a look if you have a low-spec PC, but anyone with a 386DX or 486 should go for MicroProse's *F1GP* (*PCF* 17, 85%) or *IndyCar*. PCF



Design yourself a tortuous course and then crash on it. Smashing fun!

Minimum system: 640K; VGA; 286; hard disk (1.2Mb)
Optional extras: AdLib; Sound Blaster; mouse; joystick

PCF Rating 60%

Budget game charts

The best of the budget releases

Position/Game (Last month's position in brackets)		Company	Price	Issue	Rating
1 (1)	Monkey Island	Kixx	£16.99	PCF Gold	85%
2 (5)	Populous & Promised Lands	Hit Squad	£14.99	PCF 21	81%
3 (7)	Wing Commander	Hit Squad	£14.99	PCF 28	86%
4 (NE)	Eye of the Beholder	Kixx	£16.99	PCF 31	78%
5 (6)	Fun School 2: 6-8	Hit Squad	£9.99	Not reviewed	
6 (3)	Fun School 2: Under 6	Hit Squad	£9.99	Not reviewed	
7 (8)	Winter Challenge	Hit Squad	£12.99	PCF 32	61%
8 (NE)	Thunderhawk	Corkers	£12.99	PCF 6	71%
9 (NE)	Crazy Cars 3	Fox Hits	£7.99	PCF 23	57%
10 (2)	Another World	Kixx	£14.99	PCF 31	81%

EW

Just Released on CD-ROM

NEW

The Latest and Best Award-Winning Shareware Games

ESS THAN 5p* A GAME

The Very Best ....

Games Volume 1

re proud to announce the launch of a CD-ROM that brings you the very best shareware games for both MSDOS Windows. Our emphasis is on both Quality AND Quantity. Using the phenomenal capacity of the CD-ROM, we e over 450 games in uncompressed format, ready to run...hassle free!! We have selected only the very best titles the 1000s available, including the latest and best titles from major companies such as Epic, Apogee and Id.

And remember all the games come ready to run. Among the many titles you will receive are:

Largon, Wolfenstein 3D, Spear of Destiny, Duke Nukem, Major Stryker, Shooting Gallery, Epic Pinball, Jill of the e, Cosmo, Blake Stone, Halloween Harry, Commander Keen, Galactix, Mastermind, Pirada, Sherlock, Chess, ng, Poker, Blackjack, Anagram, Word Games...and many more Arcade, Adventure, Educational, Casino, Card, Simulation and Strategy games too numerous to mention.

We guarantee there is absolutely no padding .. only the very best games are included.

The Very Best ...

mes Volume I is available for the all inclusive price of

Just £24.95*

or any 10 titles for £15.00* on 3.5" disks

Very Best Games volume I contains Shareware titles. Shareware programs require separate payment to authors if found useful.

OOK AT THESE PRICES!!!!

(inclusive of VAT/delivery within the E.C., p+p £5 elsewhere)

TOP TITLES

D=3.5" ONLY ▪ C=CD ROM ONLY ▪ B=BOTH, CALL FOR CD PRICE

ADS OVER EUROPE	D	32.99	MEGARACE	C	29.99
LONE IN THE DARK	B	32.99	MICROCOSM	C	34.99
LONE IN THE DARK 2	D	34.99	MICRO MACHINES	D	23.99
WARD WINNERS 2 (Zool, Elite+,			MS CINEMANIA	C	38.99
on Soccer, JW Snkr)	D	26.99	MS FINE ARTIST	D	34.99
TH THE STEEL SKY	B	29.99	MORTAL KOMBAT	D	23.99
TTLE ISLE 2	C	35.99	MYST	C	32.99
LOODNET	B	32.99	PACIFIC STRIKE	D	34.99
MMON FODDER	D	26.99	PREMIER MANAGER 2	D	26.99
AOS ENGINE	D	CALL	POLICE QUEST 4	B	29.99
M MAX OVERKILL	B	32.99	QUEST FOR GLORY 4	B	29.99
RK SUN,S. LANDS	B	32.99	RAVENSLOFT	C	32.99
OF TENTACLE	B	31.99	REBEL ASSAULT	C	34.99
LTA V	D	32.99	RETURN TO ZORK	B	32.99
RACULA UNL'SHED	C	34.99	RISE OF ROBOTS SVGA	B	34.99
RAGON'S LAIR	C	34.99	SAM & MAX	B	31.99
UNGTH GUEST bundle	C	34.99	SC'TERS MAG CAS	B	26.99
DER SCROLLS	D	32.99	SHADOWCASTER	B	29.99
LITE 2 (FRONTIER)	D	29.99	SHERLOCK 3	C	34.99
CUTIVE ACTION	D	26.99	SHERLOCK LOST FILES	D	29.99
E OF BEHOLDER 3	B	29.99	SIM CITY 2000	D	29.99
PA FLT DEFENDER	D	32.99	STAR TREK 25TH ANN	C	32.99
BRIEL KNIGHT	B	29.99	STRIKE COMMANDER	B	34.99
HANA B'S W'KSP	D	34.99	SUBWARS 2050	D	32.99
HOT CAR RACING	D	32.99	X-WING	D	32.99
NDY JONES FTL	B	24.99	- SWING+IMP PURS PACK	D	29.99
ION HELIX	C	29.99	TIE FIGHTER	B	32.99
SKINEYMAN PROJ	C	29.99	TFX	D	32.99
NGS QUEST 6	B	32.99	UFO	B	32.99
ISURE SUIT LARRY 6	B	29.99	ULTIMA 1+2	C	34.99
NKS 386	D	32.99	ULTIMA 8	B	34.99
RT 2 LINKS COURSES	D	34.99	WHO SHOT J ROCK	C	37.99

AMAZING VALUE -6 BIG HIT ORIGINALGAMES
only £22.99 each or £39.99 for 2 (3.5" or CD)

VOLUME 1 - F19 Stealth Fighter, Titus the Fox, Grand Prix Master, Satan, Chicago 90, Stargoose
VOLUME 2 - F15 Strike Eagle 2, The Blues Brothers, Hammer Boy, Hotshot, Highway Patrol 2, Eye of Horus
VOLUME 3 - Gunship, Crazy Cars 3 , Mega Phoenix, Airball, Archipelagos, Starray
VOLUME 4 - M1 Tank Platoon, F14 Tomcat, Battletech, Scrylis, Slots & Cards, Pentys
VOLUME 5 - Knights of the Sky, Ghostbusters 2, Battletech 2, Mondu's Fight Palace, Time Bandits, Flashy Cars
VOLUME 6 - Silent Service 2, 3D World Tennis, Graham Souness Soccer Manager, World Cricket, Maya, Stormlord (available June)
VOLUME 7 - Special Forces, Millemiglia, 3D World Boxing, Nebulus, Windsurf Willy, Blade Warrior (available June)
VOLUME 8 - Railroad Tycoon, World Cup FootballManager, International Tennis, Targhan, Netherworld, Big Game Fishing (available June)
VOLUME 9 - Super Tetris, Football Manger 3, International Athletics, Fruit Machine, Genghis Khan, Basket Play-Off
FLIGHT PACK SPECIAL - F15 Strike Eagle 2 (plus Desert Strike Scenarios) F14 Tomcat, Air Warrior.

MICROSOFT FLIGHT SIMULATOR SPECIALS

FLIGHT SIM V5 £32.99 TOOLKIT £32.99
SCENERY BUNDLE SPECIAL - NY, PARIS,SAN FR'ISCO £53.99
AIR TRAFF CONT/REAL WEATHER PILOT BUNDLE £32.99
FAST ACTION PACK £26.99 PRAXIM £26.99
2 ITEMS =10% EXTRA DISCOUNT

OTHER SPECIALS	MS ENCARTA -	£66.99 (CD)
	CHESSMASTER 4000	£19.99 (3.5")
	WORLD ATLAS 4 -	£19.99 (CD/3.5")

00s more titles available including business software at up to 50% off RRP (all inclusive)

Why pay more?????

CLUSIVE OFFER

£5 EXTRA DISCOUNT

off any title when purchased together with The Very Best Games Volume I

Credit Card Hotline

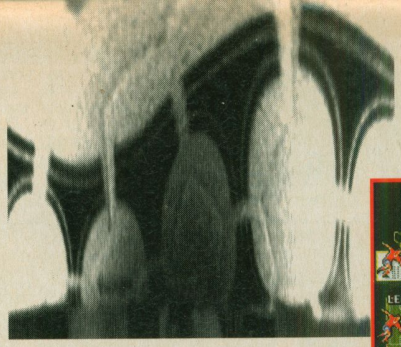
Ring 0724 271 281 (4 lines)

Access

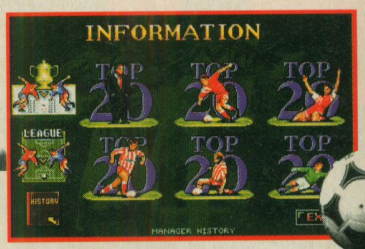
...or make your cheques/PO payable to:
MULTIMAX LTD, PO Box 28, Scunthorpe DN16 3UF

Credit Cards will only be debited when goods are dispatched.

MultiMax



can



you

actual VGA screens



manage



it?

The Tactician

Select your team and play the transfer market using real player data to make your decision. Unique tactical section enabales you to have total control of individual players. Change your tactics during the game using the unique preset tactical options-should you hold onto that one goal lead or go for another? Review the comprehensive and detailed statistics to plan your progress when you need to.

The Coach

Organise your coaching and training. Get your scouts "on the ground" invest in your youth team and nurse your injury list back to full fitness. Select the best backroom staff to maximise your team's performance

The Manager

Deal with full post-match newspaper reports on your performance. Take tough decisions, deal with your chairman, sponsors and fans.

The Businessman

Negotiate your contract, look after yourself and make sure your're the boss of your own destiny.

The Winner

You're a 35 year old new boy - how long is it going to take you to get promotion, fill your trophy cabinet and build a dynasty. Your time is up after 30 seasons at the top.

We have managed to create an ultra advanced ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE simulation of gameplay and player decisions. Relive the superb animated highlights of goals, saves and injuries. Everything you get in any other management simulation and more.

CAN YOU MANAGE IT?

IBM PC available in May RRP £34.99
PC CD ROM to follow.

Published by:
IMAGINE HOME ENTERTAINMENT LIMITED

Distributed by:
The Software Business

for further information contact us on
0480 496497

FOOTBALL MANAGER

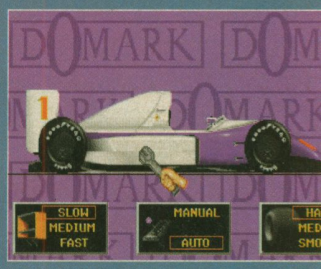
F1

"Is it fast?" we asked Rob Pegley. "Does Murray Walker have a silly voice?" he replied with a cheeky glint in his eye.



F1 is certainly one of the fastest games we've seen on the PC. It ta your reactions and beats them severely with a big stick.

You know the score: foils, gears, tyres. We'll say no more about it.



There is a vast difference between what you can get away with on a console and what the more discerning PC owner is willing to settle for. Until *Virtua Racing* flashed its polygons at Mega Drive owners, they were happy with *Nigel Mansell's World Championship* and *F1*. And with *Virtua Racing* costing around 70 quid, Mega Drive owners are still going for the quick arcade thrills that *Nigel* and *F1* provide.

Of course, if the poor fools were to invest in a PC and splash out on a copy of *IndyCar Racing* they'd soon realise the error of their ways. They would see that games such as *F1* are just a cheap thrill for speed freaks – offering an opportunity to keep the accelerator hard on and give your reactions a road test as you blitz to victory on 12 of the world's top courses. But surely there's more to racing games. Well, if you think not, perhaps this is the game for you after all.

In theory, *F1* covers every racing base. Most of the world's 16 tracks are reasonably represented, and there are demo races to help you memorise their every twist and turn. You can road test your cars and try to reduce lap times in training, and then get to grips with real races in arcade mode. Overtaking is your aim here – the more suckers you pass, the more races you complete, and the more points you accrue. Finally there's the full championship, in which you can complete a whole season. There are four skill levels to attempt and all the routine modifications can be made to your motor. Wings, gearbox and tyres can all be adjusted and, of course, there are pit stops.

On paper it sounds great, and it looks damn fine on screen as well. The graphics are well detailed, with added touches such as cars coming into view in your wing mirrors, and the whole things scrolls perfectly. But – and you were just waiting for a 'but', weren't you? – it's ultimately a disappointment. *F1* lacks the intuition and sensitivity that *IndyCar* provides. Rather than really having to think about your driving, this is simply a case of hacking it around track after track, thinking to yourself, "Do those car modifications really make any difference or what?"

Drastic actions

F1 has some advantages over its rivals. It's cheaper than most others for one. It's faster, for another. This can be a disadvantage, however, as at times the movement pushes even the best of reactions to the limit, and it can also make you feel queasy. Of course, you can always try using the brake or letting off the accelerator if it becomes too much, but you shouldn't need to take such drastic action too often.



Rather than having to think about your driving, this is simply a case of hacking it around track after track

Of all the arcade-style race games that exist on the PC, this is certainly the most fun, by virtue of its speed alone. If you're looking to snap your reactions into shape before attempting a more realistic play with *IndyCar*, then give this a whirl. But, although this might be a top console game, it doesn't really hack it on the PC. PCF

Looking elsewher

The next big driving game is goin to be Geoff Crammond's *F1GP* sequel, which will contain oodles real data direct from the Renault/Williams team. Expect a Christmas release.

Lasting pleasure

IndyCar Racing
£44.99 Papyrus/VIE, *PCF* 28, 88

Formula One Grand Prix
£44.99 MicroProse, *PCF* 17, 85%

Instant thrills

Nigel Mansell's World Championship
£29.99 Gremlin, *PCF* 21, 66%

F1

£29.99 Domark ☎ 071 780 2222

Minimum system: 640K; VGA; 386; hard disk (2.4Mb)

Optional extras: AdLib; Sound Blaster; Roland; joystick

For

- Extremely fast
- Great arcade fun
- Cheaper than its main rivals

Against

- Unrealistic controllability
- Lacks originality or longevity

PCF Rating 69%

TRACKS OF MY FEARS They have different names and backdrops, but that's about your lot.



This is Adelaide, but it could be Camber Sands for all the difference it makes to us.



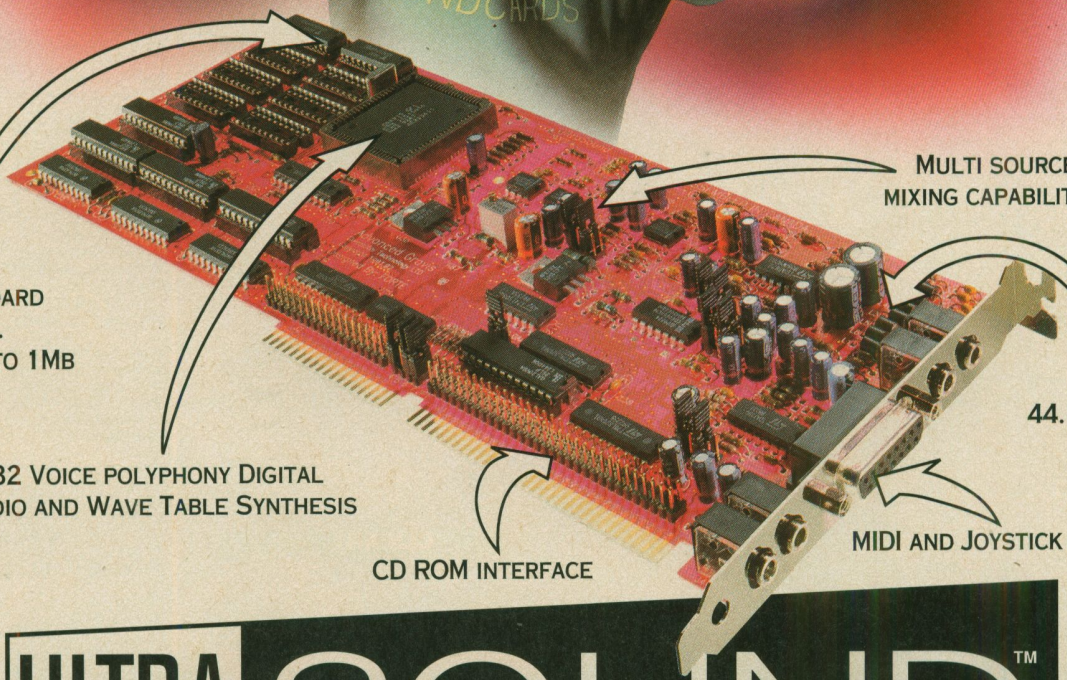
And here is Monaco. But of course you can only take our word for that.



And who could forget Silverstone? Who could recognise it, more like.

YOU DON'T NEED BIG BUCKS TO BUY A BIG BAND





256K ONBOARD MEMORY. UPGRADABLE TO 1MB

MULTI SOURCE MIXING CAPABILITIES

16-BIT 44.1KHZ SOUND

32 VOICE POLYPHONY DIGITAL AUDIO AND WAVE TABLE SYNTHESIS

CD ROM INTERFACE

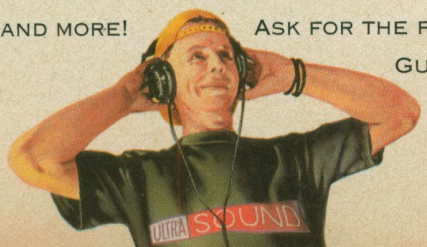
MIDI AND JOYSTICK INTERFACE

ULTRA SOUND™

TRUE WAVE TABLE SOUND & FX FROM YOUR PC

JUST SLOT **"GUS"**, THE NEW GRAVIS ULTRA SOUND CARD, INTO YOUR IBM PC OR COMPATIBLE AND YOU HAVE EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO COMPETE WITH THE BIGGEST BIG BAND. SAX, DRUMS, GUITARS, PIANOS, ORGANS. GUS IS SOUND BLASTER™ COMPATIBLE AND GIVES YOU 16-BIT CD QUALITY SOUND AND 32 VOICE RAM BASED WAVE TABLE SOUNDS. YOU HEAR **REALISTIC** MUSIC AND SOUND FX. BETTER THAN FM SOUND. THE NEW WAVE IS **WAVE TABLE** AND GUS HAS IT ALL. PLUS SUPPORT FOR A WHOLE LIST OF EXCITING GAMES INCLUDING TERMINATOR, RAMPAGE, DOOM, DINOSAUR ADVENTURE II, MICROCOSM, LEISURE SUIT LARRY VI, ARCHON ULTRA, EPIC PINBALL AND MORE! ASK FOR THE FULL LIST AT YOUR LOCAL COMPUTER SHOP.

GUS GIVES THE BIGGEST BANG FOR THE BUCK IN MUSIC AND GAMES.



Advanced GRAVIS

ZYE TECHNOLOGY Ltd.: Tel: 0293-538666, Fax: 0293-538414. **LEISURE SOFT Ltd.:** Tel: 0604-768771, Fax: 0604-706773.
CD TECHNOLOGY Ltd. (OPTECH Ltd.): Tel: 0252-735622, Fax: 0252-734177.
ADVANCED GRAVIS EUROPE: Tel: ++ 32-3-4582564, Fax: ++ 32-3-4582568.

ISIS DISTRIBUTION LTD

SUPPLIERS OF CD ROM AND MULTIMEDIA PRODUCTS

CD ROM TITLES

LEISURE

	£
7th Guest	39.00
Alone in the Dark	29.00
Battlechess	30.00
Beneath a Steel Sky	**42.00**
Carmen San Diego	16.00
Carmen World Deluxe	40.00
Case of The Cautious Condor	33.00
CD Challenge Pack	14.00
CD Game Pack II	26.00
Chess Maniac	31.00
Chess Master 3000	15.00
Chess Master 3000 Professional	39.00
Commanche	29.00
Conan The Cimmerian	22.00
Conspiracy	18.00
Critical Path	33.00
Cyberrace	30.00
Day of The Tentacle	30.00
Destination Mars	27.00
Dinosaur Adventure	37.00
Dracula Unleashed	33.00
Dune	32.00
Dune/7th Guest Pack	**35.00**
Eric The Unready	22.00
Eye of The Beholder 3	27.00
Eye of The Beholder Trilogy	31.00
FI 5 Strike Eagle III	25.00
Famous Collection - 7 games	17.00
Flight Sim Toolkit	32.00
Gateway 2	24.00
Geekward 5 Arcade Games	17.00
Golden 7 (7 games in one)	33.00
Great Naval Battles 2	**30.00**
Hell Cab	56.00
Inca 2	37.00
Indiana Jones & The Fate of Atlantis	**30.00**
Iron Helix	**26.00**
Jones In The Fast Lane	30.00
Jouneyman Project	26.00
Jurassic Park	25.00
Jutland	36.00
Kings Quest V	16.00
Kings Quest VI	33.00
Labyrinth	27.00
Lawnmower Man	34.00
Legend Of Kyrandia	31.00
Lemmings Double Pack	**24.00**
Lord Of The Rings	30.00
Mad Dog McRee	25.00
Mantis	14.00
Mega Race	**28.00**
Microcosm	38.00
Microprose Collection	14.00
Microsoft Golf	**33.00**
Murder Makes Strange Deadfellows	33.00
Quantum Gate	33.00
Rebel Assault	33.00
Return to Zork	28.00
Rick Dangerous Compilation	32.00
Secret of Monkey Island	31.00
Secret Weapons of The Luftwaffe	33.00
Sherlock Holmes I	27.00
Sherlock Holmes 2	27.00
Sherlock Holmes 3	31.00
Shuttle	34.00
Space Adventure	17.00
Space Quest IV	21.00
Star Wars Chess	37.00
Stellar 7	30.00
Strike Commander	33.00
TFX	32.00
Ultima 1-6	38.00
Ultima Underworld 1 & 2	33.00
Ultima Underworld & Wing Commander 2	33.00
Who Shot Johnny Rock	**33.00**
Wing Commander & Secret Mission	33.00
Wing Commander & Ultima 6	14.00
Wing Commander II DLX	25.00
Wolfpack	17.00

NEED HELP?
CAL FOR ADVICE

EDUCATION

	£
Animals	33.00
Atlas, Farm Doc, Guinness, Animals	56.00
Atlas, McMil, CD GamePack 2, Arena	53.00
Attica Writers Reference	82.00
Berlitz Think and Talk French	101.00
Berlitz Think and Talk German	101.00
Comptons Encyclopedia	89.00
Comptons, Solar, Atlas, Arena	68.00
Creation Stories	28.00
Creepy Crawlies	34.00
Cute 'n' Cuddlies	34.00
Dictionary of the Living World	73.00
Dinosaurs	40.00
Ecoquest: The Search	30.00
Exploring Earth Science	174.00
Exploring Plant Science	88.00
Family Doctor	16.00
Fingers For Windows	33.00
Guinness Disk Of Records 93	33.00
Hutchinsons Encyclopedia	45.00
ITN News 92	51.00
Interactive French Tutor	133.00
Interactive Periodic Table	88.00
ITN European News	133.00
JFK Assassination	**40.00**
Intro to Classical Music	43.00
London	29.00
Macmillan Dictionary for Children	13.00
Math Blast Search	24.00
Maths Blaster	23.00
Microsoft Art Gallery	40.00
Microsoft Beethoven	40.00
Microsoft Cinemania 94	40.00
Microsoft Dinosaur	40.00
Microsoft Encarta 94	79.00
Microsoft Mozart	40.00
Microsoft Musical Instruments	40.00
Microsoft Stravinsky	40.00
Oceans Below	**27.00**
PC Globe Atlas Maps & Facts	23.00
Peter & The Wolf	33.00
Resource Library MPC	17.00
Space Visual History	25.00
Spellbound	25.00
Sports Illustrated	11.00
The Big Green Disc	**55.00**
The Daily & Sunday Telegraph	99.00
World War II Archives	133.00

CHILDREN

Adventures in Fairy Land	**39.00**
Arthurs Teacher Trouble	27.00
Busy Town	**39.00**
Cinderella	16.00
Fatty Bear	27.00
Grandma & Me	27.00
Mixed Up Mother Goose	17.00
Putt Putt Fun Pack	24.00
Putt Putt Goes to the Moon	27.00
PuttPutt Joins the Parade	27.00
Scooters Magic Castle	35.00
Tortoise & The Hare	**27.00**

SHAREWARE

	£
Adventures in Heaven	9.50
Colossal Cookbook	9.00
Complete Bookshop	9.00
Cookbook Heaven	9.50
Deathstar Arcade Battles	9.00
Dictionaries & Languages	12.00
Game Master III	18.00
Ham Radio	9.00
Learning Heaven	9.50
Nautilus Backpack	42.00
Our Solar System	9.00
Romware Animation	6.00
Romware Developer	6.00
Romware Education	6.00
Romware Fonts	6.00
Romware Games	6.00
Romware Graphics	6.00
Romware Sounds	6.00
Romware Windows	6.00
Shareware Overload	9.00
Shareware Heaven 2	10.50
Straight From Heaven	9.50
Sound Sensations	10.00
Windows Heaven	9.50
Wizpac 6 Pak	15.00

GENERAL

1000 Great Sound Effects	30.00
Architecture (WIN)	**36.00**
Deep Voyage	26.00
Explorer Collection (WIN)	89.00
Full Bloom	26.00
Kodak Photo Access	12.50
MPC Wizard	**10.00**
Tropical Rain Forest	26.00
Walk Through & Flybys	**22.00**
Wild Places	26.00
Window Works	**35.00**
World View	26.00

NEW TITLES COMING SOON

Rock & Roll Years, The 50's	CALL
Sam & Max Hit The Road	CALL
Ultima 8 + Pagan	39.99
Myst for Windows	**39.00**
The Horde	39.00
Frontier: Elite 2	26.00
Daemons Gate (With Video)	28.00
Rise Of The Robots	CALL
The Car Register 94	12.00
Lands of Lore	**34.00**
Police Quest IV	CALL
Leisure Suit Larry VI	38.00
FIVE FOOT TEN PACK	**35.00**

CLIPART

Clipart Goliath	9.50
Clipart Heaven	9.50
Clipart Warehouse	9.50

FREE TECHNICAL
SUPPORT - CALL

CD ROM DRIVES

NEC



NEC 2Xi Internal
Double Speed
Multisession
320ms Av Access CD ROM Drive **£149**

NEC 3Xi Internal
Double Speed
Multisession
195msec Av Access CD ROM Drive **£290**

NEC Interface Kit **£37**

PANASONIC



Panasonic 562B, Double Speed Multisession,
CD ROM Drive with 320msec Av Access.
Complete With Interface Kit **£139**

Panasonic 562B.
CD ROM Drive Only. **£129**

MPC UPGRADE KITS

MultiPro
Includes: Panasonic 562B
CD ROM Drive, Soundblaster
8 Bit Sound Card, Ross 5 Watt
Speakers, all manuals, software
drivers and cables
+ Bonus CD: **Iron Helix** **£285**

MultiPro Plus
Includes : Panasonic 562B
CD ROM Drive, Soundblaster
Pro 16 Bit Sound Card, Ross 5 Watt
Speakers, all manuals, software
drivers and cables
+ Bonus CD: **Iron Helix** **£310**

Creative Labs:
Omni CD - ROM Kit
Includes: Double speed,
Multisession, CD ROM Drive,
Creative Quick CD. **Internal: £199**
Aldus PhotoStyler &
Toolwork Encyclopedia **External: £233**

Discovery CD 16 Upgrade Kit
Includes: Double speed,
Multisession, CD ROM Drive.
Sound Blaster 16 audio card, Stereo Speakers &
Microphone. All manuals and software drivers.
Plus Bundled CD ROM Software. **£349**

Game Blaster CD 16
Includes: Double speed,
Multisession, CD ROM Drive.
Sound Blaster 16 audio card,
Stereo Speakers & High Performance Joystick.
All manuals and software drivers
Plus Bundled CD ROM Games Software. **£375**

EasyCD 16
Includes: Double speed,
Multisession, CD ROM Drive.
Sound Blaster 16 audio card, Stereo Speakers &
Microphone. All manuals and software drivers.
Plus 15 Bundled Quality Software Titles. **£575**

SOUND CARDS



Sound Blaster 2.0 Value Pack	£43
Sound Blaster Pro Value Pack	£58
Sound Blaster 16 Value Pack	£72
Sound Blaster 16 MultiCD Pack	£110
Sound Blaster 16 MultiCD ADSP Pack	£130
Sound Blaster 16 SCSI-2 Pack	£130
Sound Blaster 16 SCSI ADSP Pack	£150
Sound Blaster AWE 32 Pack	£199
Gravis: Ultrasound 16 Bit	**£110**

SPEAKERS

Labtec CS 150	£15
Labtec CS 550	£22
Labtec CS 700	£25

JOYSTICKS

Gravis Analog PC Black	£29
Gravis analog PRO	£35

HOW TO ORDER

Phone or Fax your order quoting credit card details.
When ordering by cheque please allow 5 working days for clearance.
All prices exclude VAT and Delivery.

DELIVERY CHARGES
C.D. ROM Software £6.00 per order next day
C.D. ROM Drives £7.50 per order next day
FREE DELIVERY on all orders over £150.00

VISA

Access

ISIS DISTRIBUTION LTD
UNIT 27, THE BERESFORD CENTRE,
WADE ROAD, BASINGSTOKE, HANTS RG24 0PL

PHONE: 0256 20150 FAX: 0256 20261

ISIS Distribution acknowledges all trademarks and copyrights. Prices may change without notice.

BONUS POINTS

Game tips

This month we walk you through the first half of *Beneath a Steel Sky*, show you how to seriously spread some blood about in *Mortal Kombat*, finish off our *Judgment Rites* solution and reveal an *Ultima 8* tipette.

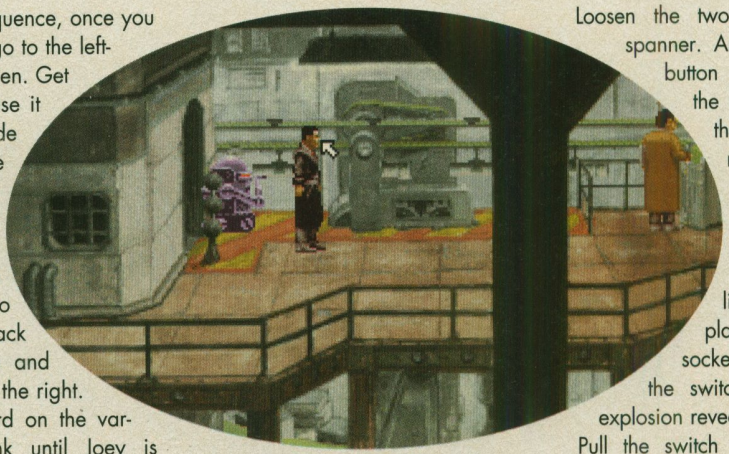
Beneath a Steel Sky

Revolution/VIE ■ Reviewed: PCF 28, 87%

THE PUZZLES IN *BENEATH A Steel Sky* are fiendishly difficult, which is why we're going to take you by the hand and walk you through the entire game. We present the first instalment of our two-part step-by-step solution.

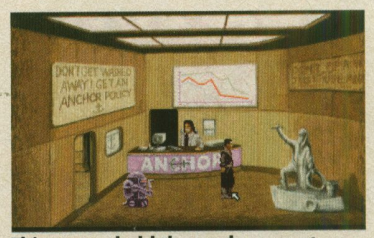
1. After the intro sequence, once you have taken control, go to the left-hand side of the screen. Get the metal bar and use it on the right-hand side exit. Go through the exit and wait for the guard to follow you. Hide behind the door and he thinks you've fallen to your death. Go back in, down the stairs and through the door on the right. Use the circuit board on the various pieces of junk until Joey is activated. Chat with Joey, then step on the lift. This attracts Hobbins. When he comes in, quickly go through the same door. Open up the cabinet and grab the spanner. Go back to the lift room and examine the droid, then go and talk to Hobbins. He tells you what's wrong with the droid, so tell Joey to fix it. When the droid activates the lift, quickly jump down the hole. When Joey arrives, ask him to open the door. Search Reich's corpse and take his belongings. Go right, then right again into the building next door.

2. You're now in the factory. Chat with Anita and, when Lamb arrives, tell him you're with security. Now go right and put the spanner in the cogs, this deactivates the welding robot. Take the spanner out again. Go left, examine the droid, then use the spanner with it. Chat to Joey about a new shell and put it on him, then go



Spanner at the ready. Jam it in the works, to disable the welding robot.

right. Try walking through the top-left door, this triggers the alarms. Ask Joey to check out the store room. When he returns, tell him to disable the fusebox. Now you can enter the store room. Inside pick up the



This statue held the anchor, or at least it did until you came along.

walkway, then get the small lump of putty that's beneath it. Show the lump to Joey and he tells you that it's actually plastic explosive. Leave the factory and go to the building on the far left of the walkway.

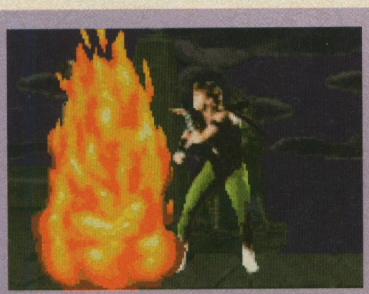
3. You're now in the steam room. Loosen the two buttons with your spanner. Ask Joey to press the button on the right and, at the same time, you push the left one. The old man throws a strop and storms off. Now go to the left of the room and pull the switch. Remove the light bulb and put the plastic explosive in the socket. Now go back to the switch and flick it. The explosion reveals two new switches. Pull the switch on the right down. Leave the steam room and go to the lift near the factory entrance. Use Reich's card on the slot and enter the lift.

4. Go left out of the lift, then through the top right doorway. Use Reich's card on the left slot and enter the room. Move the pillow and pick up the magazine. Go back the way you came, but carry on straight past the lift and enter Travelco on the next screen. Chat with the man about everything, then hand him the magazine and pick up the ticket. Leave and go back to Reich's apartment door. When Lamb arrives, chat with him. He says he needs a holiday, so give him your ticket. →

Mortal Kombat

VIE ■ Reviewed: PCF 30, 80%

MORTAL KOMBAT IS, WITHOUT a doubt, the finest beat-'em-up available for the PC and what's more, this arcade conversion thrashes the console editions hands down. For all you joypad wagglers and key bashers, who've yet to master the finishing moves, this month's Bonus Points gives you the lot. Execute the moves after winning a match, when Finish Him flashes on the screen. You may have some trouble getting them right first go, but with practice, you'll be swimming in blood in no time. Just be careful that the violence doesn't poison your sensibilities.



SONYA

She's the only woman in the tournament and in true sexist style, the Special Forces girlie blows a kiss at her foe, causing them to burst into flames, ending up in charcoal.

Two-button joystick
TOWARDS, TOWARDS, AWAY, AWAY, FIRE

Four-button joypad and keyboard
TOWARDS, TOWARDS, AWAY, AWAY, BLOCK



SUB-ZERO

With a flourish and a grin, trained assassin Sub-Zero rips out the fighter's backbone and gives it a shake. You could call it a primitive and basic spinal-ectomy.

Two-button joystick
TOWARDS, DOWN, TOWARDS, FIRE

Four-button joypad and keyboard
TOWARDS, DOWN, TOWARDS, HIGH PUNCH



SCORPION

Removing his mask, Scorpion reveals a grotesque skull and, with a huff and a puff, turns his opponent into toast. Well, what else did you expect from a fighter who was already dead anyway?

Two-button joystick
DOWN, DOWN, FIRE

Four-button joypad and keyboard
Hold BLOCK down, UP, UP

HIT NAMES - HIT GAMES FOR YOUR PC

JIMMY WHITE'S 'WHIRLWIND' SNOOKER

BY ARCHER MACLEAN



14.99

© Archer Maclean 1991.
Published by Virgin Games Ltd.
Produced under license from
Virgin Games Ltd.





JIMMY WHITE'S SNOOKER



SLEEPWALKER



THEATRE OF WAR



DUNE

GAME of the month

"One of the best realised simulations of recent years... a MUST BUY" PC REVIEW

Hit Squad

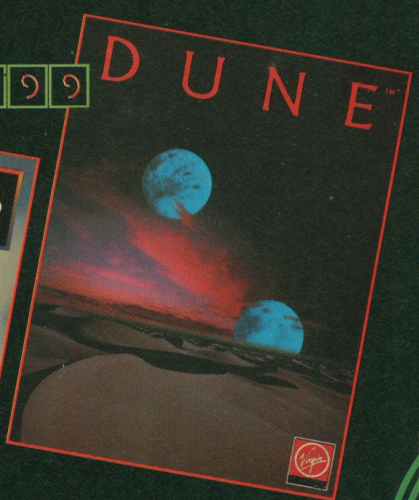
14.99



"Combines state of the art graphics with the best elements of chess and strategy gaming."

© 1992, 1994 Three-Sixty Pacific, Inc.
All Rights Reserved.
Theatre of War™, Three-Sixty and the Three Sixty logo are trademarks of Three-Sixty Pcific, Inc.
Produced under license from Electronic Arts Ltd.
Electronic Arts is a trademark of Electronic Arts, Inc.

12.99

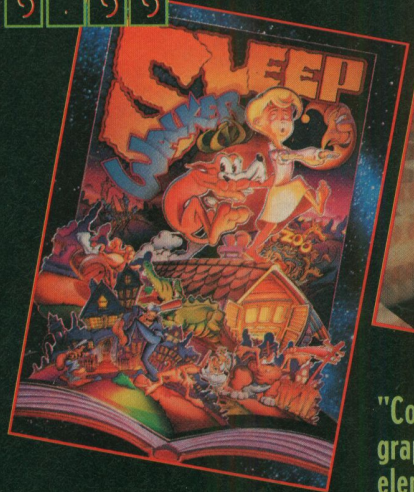


"A damn fine game... great graphics and excellent music." ZERO

"Enthralling... absorbing." PC FORMAT

DUNE is a trademark of Dino De Laurentiis Corp. and licensed by MCA/Universal Merchandising,Inc. ©1984 De Laurentiis Corp. All rights reserved. ©1992 Virgin Interactive Entertainment & Cyro Interactive Entertainment. Published under license from Virgin Interactive Entertainment.

9.99

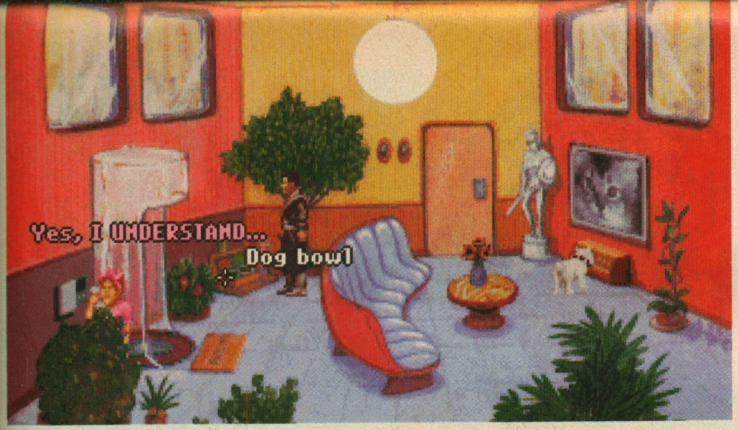


"Wild... wicked... excellent... incredible... a brilliant mix of arcade, puzzle, strategy and platform... a real winner!"

© Ocean Software Limited

Hit Squad

HIT SQUAD
2 CASTLE STREET · CASTLEFIELD
MANCHESTER · M3 4LZ
TELEPHONE: 061 832 6633
FAX: 061 834 0650



While Piermont is distracted get stuck into the doggy biscuits.

→ **5.** To pay back your good turn, Lamb offers you a tour of his factory. Go back there and chat with Lamb. At the end of the tour he leaves you outside the storeroom. Go right and chat with Anita. When she asks you for your ID card, hand her Reich's. Leave the factory and go to the LINC terminal, just by the lift. Log on with the ID card and select option 4. Get the entry code from your security manual, then enter the following sequence: 2, 1, 1, 2. Exit the terminal and go back to the lift. Chat with Lamb when he turns up. He gives you authorisation to enter his apartment... to feed his cat, would you believe.

6. Before taking the lift down, locate the cable on the left of the lift and get Joey to cut it free. Go down in the lift and pick up the cable. Go to the apartments, using Reich's card to enter. Use the machine on the right of the room to feed the cat. Collect the video tape and leave.

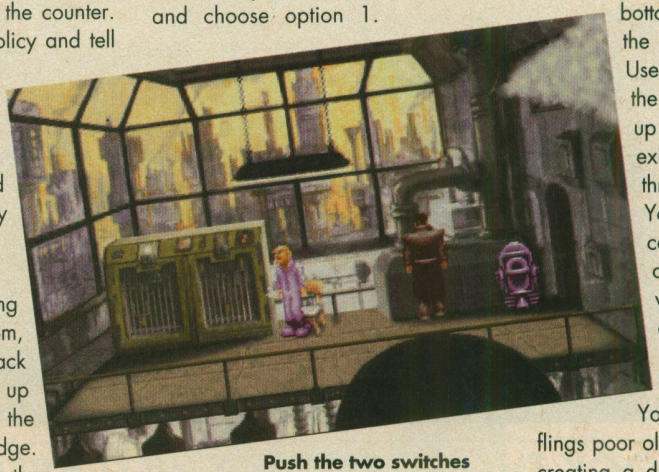
7. Go to the far left of the walkway and you reach Burke's Bio Surgery. Go inside and chat with the holographic projection. Ask Joey to chat up the hologram and persuade it to open the door. Go inside and chat with Burke. You end up signing away your testicles, but in return you get a Schreibmann Port fitted in your cranium. Chat with Burke about everything and then leave the surgery, heading right until you reach Anchor Insurance (next door to Travelco).

8. Examine the statue and then chat with the beardie behind the counter. Ask him for a Special Policy and tell him that Burke sent you. When the man pops out, tell Joey to use his welder on the anchor. Pick up the anchor and leave, making your way back up to the top level.

9. Go into the building opposite the steam room, and you find yourself back where you started. Go up the steps and through the door back on to the ledge. Use your anchor with the cable to make a grappling hook. Take the composite item and use it on the security sign of the opposite building. Go through the door on the right and use Reich's card in the slot next to the interface. Sit in the interface and jack into the matrix that is LINC space.

10. Pick up the ball and head right. Call up your inventory on the top row and use the Open program with the carpet bag. Use Decompress with the compressed data and Decrypt with the document. Go through the right exit. Now for a tricky bit. You need to get across a room, using and recollecting your password programs to unlock floor tiles. Follow this sequence and it's easy: Use, Right, Use, Left, Get, Up, Use, Right, Down, Get, Up, Use, Down, Left, Get, Up, Right, Down, Right, Down, Up, Up. Then, Exit! In the next zone, collect the bust and the book. Decrypt your two new documents then disconnect.

11. Now, back in the real world, use Reich's ID card in the LINC machine and select option 4. Enter the security code, from the manual and choose option 1.



Push the two switches together to distract the old man.

Read all the documents to learn a few things about yourself, then enter the following choices: 0, 2, 2. You have now earnt special security clearance, so log out. Use Reich's card in the slot next to the lift and exit via the lift.

12. You're now in the security station. Leave and make your way to the other lift. Use it. The security clearance enables you enter the next lift and drop down another level. Leave the lift and wait for the fat woman with the dog. Chat with her then go left and talk to the club doorman. Find the fat woman (Mrs Piermont) again, and ask her to sponsor you. Now follow her as far right as you can go and press the buzzer to ring upstairs. Tell Mrs Piermont who you are and she buzzes you upstairs. Chat with her and then ask her to sponsor you to join the club. When she's distracted on the telephone, put the video cassette in the VCR. The dog rushes over to the TV set enabling you to steal some dog biscuits. Exit Mrs Piermont's.

13. Now go through the bottom-left exit and examine the wooden double doors. Use Reich's card to open the door. Go in and pick up the secateurs and then exit. Go right, then through the top-left exit. You should be outside the cathedral. Use the biscuits on the plank and wait for Mrs Piermont and her dog to turn up. When the dog starts to bark, pull the rope. You've set a trap which flings poor old spunky into the water, creating a diversion for the security guard and enabling you to sneak into the cathedral. Nice one!

But why are you in the cathedral, and what happens next? Find out next month when we'll bring you the second half of our solution to *Beneath a Steel Sky*. →

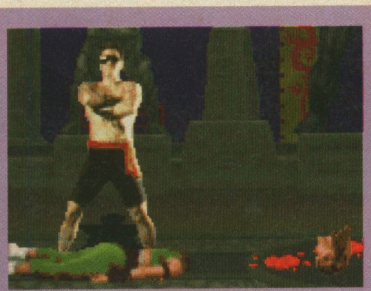


RAYDEN

The God of Lightening and Thunder has a predictably flash finishing move. Summoning up his lightning powers, Rayden blows his foe's head clean off its shoulders.

Two-button joystick
TOWARDS, AWAY, AWAY, AWAY, FIRE

Four-button joypad and keyboard
TOWARDS, TOWARDS, AWAY, AWAY, AWAY, HIGH PUNCH



JOHNNY CAGE

Keeping it simple, Johnny rips off his enemy's head... and you expected something a bit showbiz from a movie star surf-dude like Johnny, didn't you, eh?

Two-button joystick
TOWARDS, TOWARDS, TOWARDS, FIRE

Four-button joypad and keyboard
TOWARDS, TOWARDS, TOWARDS, HIGH PUNCH

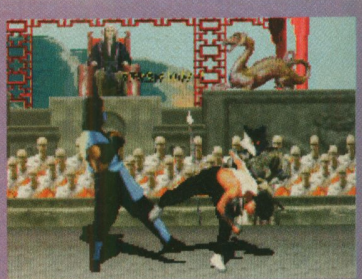


KANO

This one's not for the faint-hearted. Kano smashes his fist into his enemy's chest, rips out the heart and holds it aloft. Kano turned bad after his dream of becoming a social worker was ruined by cutbacks.

Two-button joystick
AWAY, AWAY, FIRE

Four-button joypad and keyboard
DOWN, TOWARDS, LOW PUNCH



LIU KANG

A decent fellow, seeking to restore old traditions, Liu Kang's move consists of a simple Spin Kick, followed by a combination of punches.

Two-button joystick
TOWARDS, DOWN, AWAY, UP, TOWARDS, DOWN

Four-button joypad and keyboard
TOWARDS, DOWN, AWAY, UP, TOWARDS, DOWN

Strategic PLUS SOFTWARE

FAST & FRIENDLY MAIL ORDER

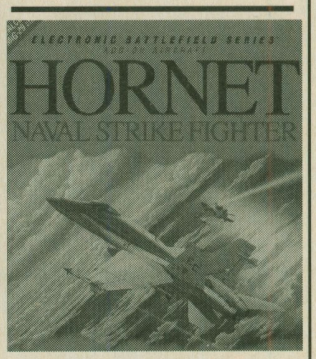
081 977 8088



Strategic Plus Software
28 D&E The Courtyard
High Street
Hampton Hill
Middlesex
TW12 1PD

Tel: 081 977 8088
Fax: 081 977 4822
Cserve ID 100014,3466
CIX STRAT_PLUS

Tigers on the Prowl	£49.99	Operation Crusader	£Call
Elder Scrolls - The Arena	£35.99	Pacific Strike! + Speech	£Call
Star Trek - 25 Ann CD	£54.99	Across The Rhine	£Call
F-14 Fleet Defender (Microprose)	£35.99	Battle Isle II CD	£44.99
Harpoon II	£35.99	Flight Shop (FS5)	£Call
F-18 Hornet (Falcon 3)	£35.99	Castles II - CD	£Call
SSN Seawolf	£39.99	Wizard	£Call
Shadowcaster - CD	£35.99	Kingmaker	£33.99
Metal and Lace	£39.99	Myst - CD	£44.99
Civilization (Windows)	£39.99	Tower	£Call
M1 Sherman	£Call	USA West Scenery	£44.99
Pagan (Ultima 8) - CD	44.99	ATP + USA East and West - CD	£69.99
Great Naval Battles II - CD	£35.99	Carriers at War II	£39.99
UFO	£39.99	Washington (Mallard for FS5)	£34.99
Nomad - CD	£27.99	Third Reich (Avalon Hill)	£Call
Al Qadim (SSI)	£Call	Gettysburg (Windows)	£35.99
The Horde CD	£Call	Links - Castle Pine	£22.99
Tie Fighter	£Call	Ravenloft- The Uninvited CD	£39.99
Wargames Construction Set II (Tank)	£Call	Armoured Fist	£Call
Man Enough - CD	£59.99	Disasters - Sim City 2000 Data	£19.99



WE STOCK THE LATEST USA RELEASES

Call 081 977 8088 for the latest information

We Specialise in:

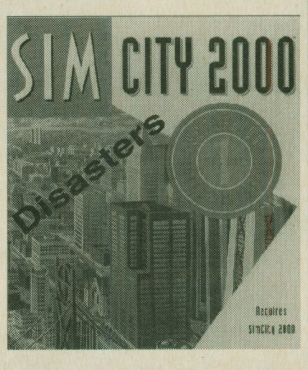
■ *Flight Simulations* ■ **Strategy** ■ SPORTS SIMULATIONS
■ **Role-Playing** ■ **WARGAMES** ■ ADVENTURES ■ ***CD Software***







THRUSTMASTER - the ultimate in flight control realism. Flight Control System, Weapons Control System, Rudder Pedals. And now the *Formula T1* Wheel with gear shift and pedals, a must for Indy Car fans.



CALL FOR THE LATEST PRICES

NO1 FOR PC GAMES

Overseas Orders & Enquiries Welcome

10 % Discount

Receive a further 10% discount on ALL advanced order.

PLUS priority despatch!

Call for details or see our current catalogue for details

SPS SYSTEMS LTD

Looking for a new PC for the home or office

Call

081- 977- 4868

11th Edition Catalogue

Send £1.50 for our 60+ page catalogue

Name _____

Address _____

_____

Country _____ Postcode _____

PCF0394

Send to: Strategic Plus Software - 28D The Courtyard, High St, Hampton Hill. Middlesex. TW12 1PD

Star Trek: Judgment Rites

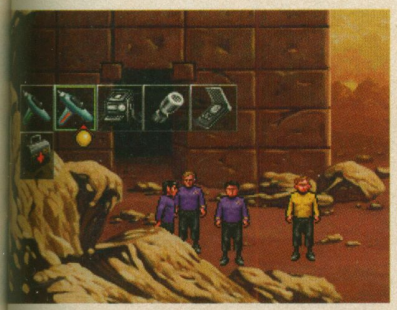
Interplay ■ Reviewed: PCF 29, 68%

→ OUR *STAR TREK* TIPS HAVE lasted almost as long as the original 60s TV show. Our thanks go to Interplay once again for this third and final instalment.

Light and Dark

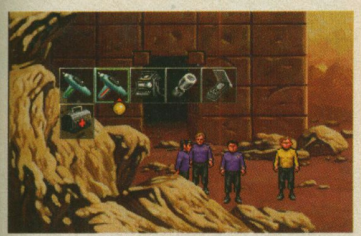
Stardate 6143.2. The USS Enterprise receives an unknown distress call while on routine patrol in the Deneb sector. Investigating further, Captain Kirk decides to beam down with a landing party to Onyius II, the source of the signal.

1. After beaming down, get Spock to use the science tricorder on the



building to the north. Enter the building, ignore the high-tech machinery and head east.

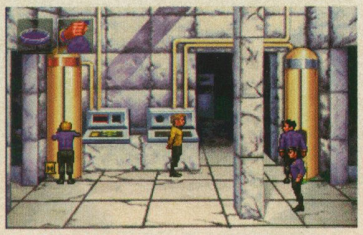
2. You will now encounter Azrah, leader of the Omegan race. Unfortunately, his people are long since dead and exist only as single-cell beings stored in a vast genetic



computer bank. Azrah is merely a holographic projection. You should speak to him about the two warring races (choices two, one and then three) and then take a genetic sample from the gene bank.

3. Go back to the lobby and then head west. You meet a second holographic projection. Vizznr is the leader of the Alphan people. Talk to him (choices two and one) and then take a genetic sample.

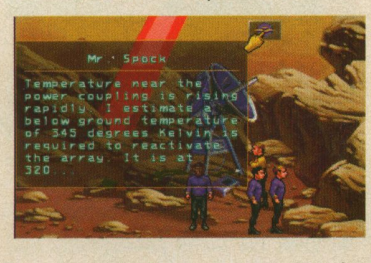
4. Return to the lobby. Use your phaser on the green slime that is



attached to the replicator machinery. Use both samples on the sequencer door. If nothing happens, talk to ensign Jons (choices three, one, one). Use the remaining sample on the sequencer door, then get Jons to work the sequencer and replicator controls.

5. Take the combined sample and go north. The machine here is the nutrient replicator. Use the combined sample on the device port. Unfortunately, the new holographic message is not complete, so you need to find the receiving station and fix it.

6. Walk south two screens, and then east, and you find the first of three antenna. Examine each one in turn, using the tricorder to scan the sensor dishes and rock formations. Use your communicator to adjust the dish set-



tings. Now use your science tricorder on the antenna control box. Signal the Enterprise to send down a low-level microwave beam to release the energy within the rocks. Head back to the genetics lab and talk to the creature (choice three).

Voids

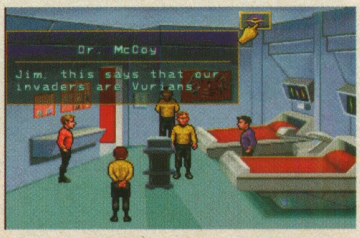
Stardate 6257.6. The USS Regulus has been forced to cancel its survey mission of the Antares Rift. The USS Enterprise is sent to replace the Regulus, but is damaged in a series of spatial disruptions.

1. Talk to all crew members. Use Spock on the science station to find out the extent of damage. Use Spock on the science station for a second time and then pick him to transport off the bridge.

2. Enter the turbo-lift and select auxiliary control. Use the communicator to talk to Scotty (choices one and one). Enter auxiliary control and use the



medical tricorder on the alien who then throws you out.



3. At the turbo-lift select sick-bay. Talk to McCoy and pick up the canister.

4. Return to the turbo-lift and select engineering. Use the gas canister on the life-support device and activate life-support controls.

5. Go to the auxiliary control room and use the sensors to find out the alien's last known coordinates, then



make your way to the transporter room. Beam down to the planet.

6. Walk east and collect the small pouch. Walk west and use the pouch on the blue rocks. Talk to the alien (choices one and three).

7. Walk east and talk to the Savant entity (choices one, three and three). Talk to Savant again (choices three and two). Use the pouch on Savant. Do not threaten him, use reason instead. Talk to him one final time (choices two and one).

Museum Piece

The USS Enterprise has to undergo extensive repairs, so the crew enjoy an extended period of shore leave. Asked to attend a diplomatic party at the Smithsonian Annex on Nova Atar, Captain Kirk is caught off-guard when a terrorist attack takes place.

1. Explore the museum's many rooms which are stuffed with all kinds of sci-fi widgets and gadgets. Either wait until



your party is summoned to the curator's office or try and enter room 11 from room 10. After the curator is attacked, use one of the landing party on him. Get Scotty to operate the security station three times. Become a rampant kleptomaniac and take anything that isn't bolted down. Pick up the large bottle and the piece of paper with the security code written on it. Take the lance, silver tray and decanter. Use Kirk on the control panel on the desk (twice), and then use the suit of armour to keep the doorway wide open.



2. Walk through the door. Use Scotty on the phaser cannon and place both capacitors on the table to recharge them. Use Scotty on NIVEN (Non-Integrated Vulcan Electro-Numerator). Take the capacitors (when charged).

3. Walk south-east and use the security code to open the door. Enter: VVSOP2123. Use Scotty on the docking ring and escape pod. Use the charged capacitor on the robot which springs to life, then keels over. Use Scotty to repair the robot and to pick it up.

4. Go north and use the discharged capacitor on the table. Wait until it has fully recharged and then pick it up and go north-east. →

→

5. Talk to Scotty who reveals a plan for blowing apart the locked door. Use the clamps, super-conducting wire and both capacitors on the



table. Plug the interface cable into the Klingon device. Use the lance on the table and then use Scotty on the Klingon device and get ready for a fireworks display. Pick up the capacitors and exit north-east.

6. Look around the devastated room, take the gas canister and head north-west. Use the capacitor on the robot, pick choice one, then use Scotty on the robot and the



probe door to reveal the hidden fuel cell. Use the silver tray, decanter and capacitor on the probe. Pick up the capacitor (when fully charged) and the silver tray.

7. Walk south-east and use Scotty on the ancient transporter. Use the access panel, the wires and the capacitor on the transporter. Get Scotty to check over the transporter and then send the gas canister into the room where the terrorists are holed up. Pick choice one and then go east.

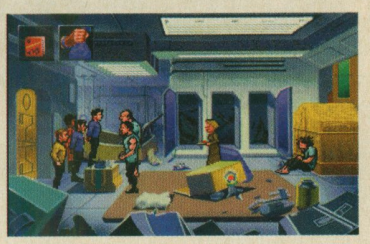


Though this be madness

Stardate 6169.3. The USS Enterprise picks up a distress call from the Romulan Neutral Zone. Investigating further, the crew of the Enterprise encounter a large alien vessel which is threatening to destroy the capital city of Atabis. Captain Kirk must safeguard the colonists at all costs.

1. Beaming down to the alien spaceship, the landing party discover a derelict ship manned by a bunch of blubbering lunatics (much like *PC FORMAT*, in fact). Go west and use Uhura on the mad King. Talk to the King (choice two) and use the light switch and light grid.

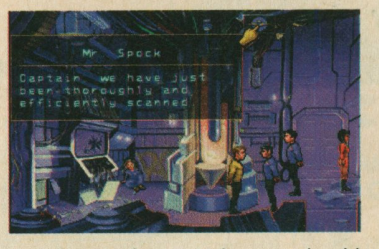
2. Walk east for three screens and get Spock to take on the uncooperative thugs at a game of three-dimensional chess. You also



encounter two Klingon officers, but they are here to observe rather than to interfere.

3. Walk west for three screens and give the bear you've just won to Jakesey who gives you his building blocks. Go north to the hydroponics room which is full of rotting plants. Take the metal keg (at the end of the plant table on the left) and use it on the workbench at the far end of the room. Use the red phaser and blocks on the keg. Again fire the phaser at the keg, pick it up and replace it in its original position.

4. Go south, east and south again. Use the science tricorder on the computer and the old woman (Moll). Get



Spock to perform a Vulcan mind-meld on her. Go south and pick the ripened fruit from the tree.

5. Head east and talk to Moll (choice two). Use the fruit on her. Go east for three screens. Give the fruit to the woman's son and talk to him (choices one, two, three and four). Take the bad food from the hidden cabinet.

6. Go west for three screens. Use the food machine to produce a packet of food. Use the bad food and the food box on the medical computer terminal to produce a tranquilliser. Talk to Moll and give her the drugged food. Use the food machine and take a new packet of food.

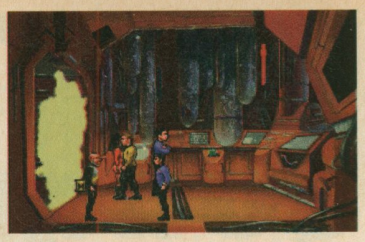


7. Walk east for four screens. Use the packet of food on Tuskin and stun Rackaback. Talk to Gormagon who joins you and reveals the hidden entrance to the Pays computer.

8. Enter the secret passageway and use the lightbar on the exposed wiring. Use the lightbar on Klarr. Use the electrical connectors and wire on

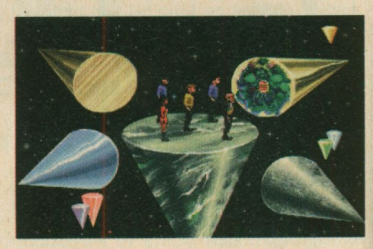


the network. Once the computer is repaired, pick choices two, one, four and five. Pick up the lens and use it on the computer terminal. Pick choice five and then two. The Brassia reveal themselves – follow them through the



portal to reach the eighth and final instalment of the adventure.

...yet there is method in it



Stardate 6269.3. The landing party and Klingon Captain Klarr have passed through a mysterious portal in time and space and are about to finally face the mysterious Brassica, the aliens who have been secretly testing the Enterprise crew. Success in these final tests will lead to the establishment of formal relations between the Brassica and the Federation.

You will be asked a series of questions. It is up to you and the rest of your party to piece together the answers. We don't want to spoil the fun, so we're leaving this last adventure up to you. Remember to save your game before you begin this episode, as one wrong answer will end your quest.



There is no more

If you're still having trouble solving *Star Trek: Judgment Rites*, Interplay has produced a comprehensive hints and tips book. Released at the end of May, it will cost £9.99 (including post and packaging). Write to: Interplay Productions Ltd., The Barn, St John's Yard, Main Road, Fyfield, Oxon OX13 5LN, or call them on ☎ 0865 390029. Please make cheques payable to Interplay Productions Ltd. PCF



Pagan: Ultima 8

£25 winner

EA ■ Reviewed: PCF 32, 92%

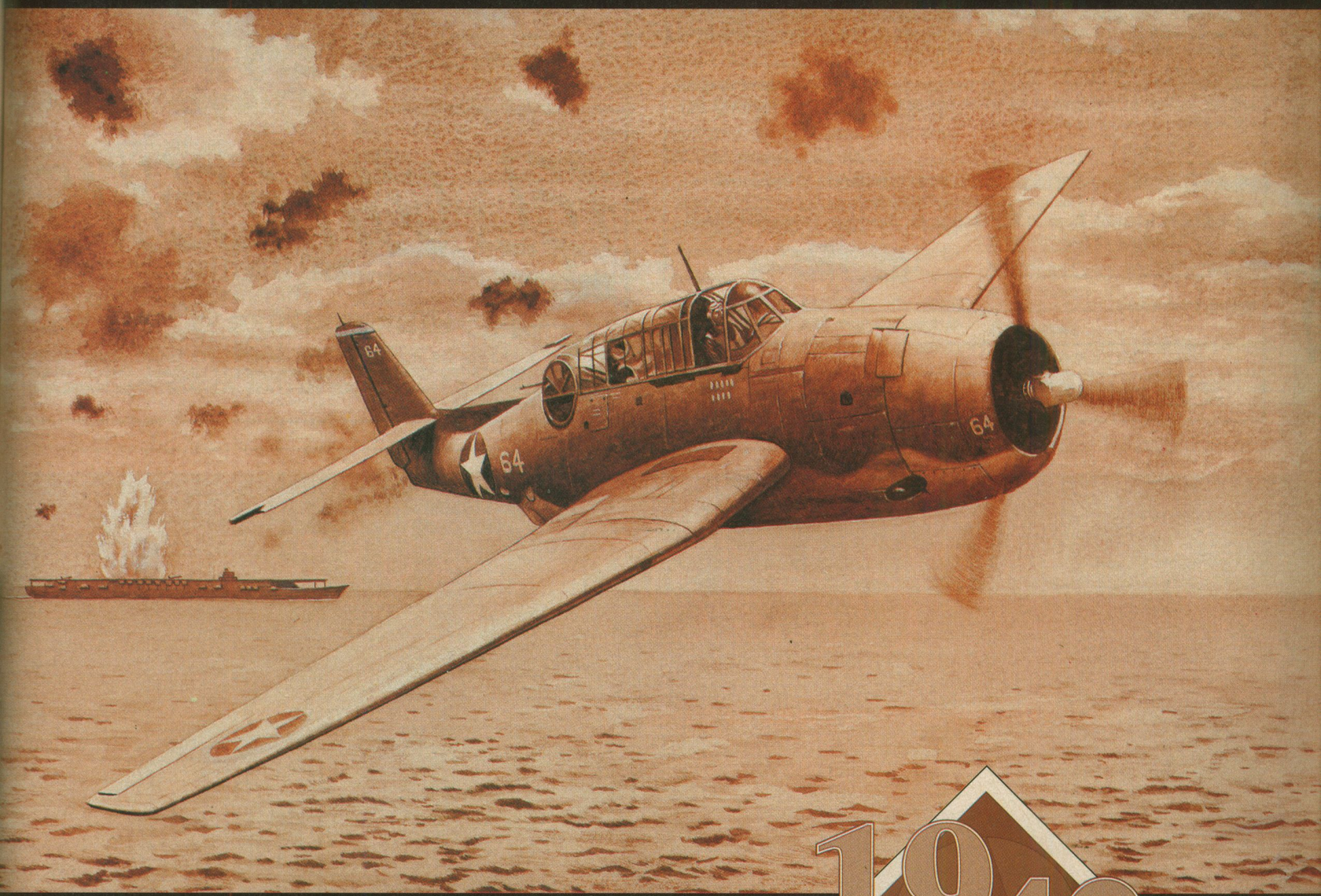
THIS COMPLICATED, BUT BRILLIANT LITTLE TIP SENT in by *Steven Fay* all the way from *Australia*, enables a cheat mode in *Pagan*, which gives you free keys, spells, and information, as well as numerous other sneaky cheats. You need to edit a file called avatar.dat in the gamedat directory, using a hex editor such as *Norton Diskedit*. Change the bytes at offset 2A and 2B to 01. If you don't have a hex editor then you can use *Dos Debug* and, in the gamedat directory, type: `debug avatar.dat` which brings up a '-' prompt. Type: `e 12a 01 01` then press [Enter]. Now type: `w` and press [Enter], then type: `q` and you should now be back at the DOS prompt. Next time you start the game the cheat mode will be enabled. There are two cheat modes. One is activated by pressing [F7], another by a single left mouse-button click on your character. Pressing [Ctrl] [F1] will pull up a help menu.



The Avatar is studiously ignored by a pleb. Time to cheat, we think.

In 1942, in the South Pacific
only the bravest and the best flyers
became carrier aircrew.

JOIN THEM



1942

THE PACIFIC AIR WAR

FOR IBM PC COMPATIBLES

MICROPROSE

POWER OF THE HACKER



Have you ever looked through the pages of a magazine searching for a cheat for your latest game? Ever wondered how these cheats are made? - "Power of the Hacker" gives you the knowledge and the tools to write your own cheats.

The "Power of the Hacker" package enables you to cheat at computer games of every type. It is not just a list of cheats for various games as you would find in the tips section of a magazine, but a complete guide to how computer users can make their own cheats for most games that are available for the PC. These are secrets that have been closely guarded by the master hackers, information that has never been released before.

The book is a complete step-by-step guide for users of all levels of experience and gives worked-through examples of all the different methods used by the experts. On the disk are all the programs you need to get started, along with a full set of example files.

So don't wait around for a cheat in the tips pages that may never appear, use the power of the hacker to write one yourself, some magazines pay up to £50!

Please send me "The Power of the Hacker" for just £15.00 + £1.50 P&P (£2.50 P&P outside EC).
Cheques payable to "Klystron".
Send to: "Klystron", Dept PCF, P.O. Box 45, Basildon, Essex SS14 2NA

Name:_____ 3.5☐ 5.25☐ disk

Delivery Address:_____

_____

_____

_____ Postcode: _____

CD-ROM PLUS

Our top ten most requested titles

FREE MOUSE MAT WITH EVERY ORDER

SAM & MAX CD	31.99	SIM CITY 2000 CD	34.99
STAR TREK 25th CD	34.99	MEGA RACE CD	28.99
DARK SEED	31.99	WORLD ATLAS IV CD	24.99
FRONTIER - ELITE II CD	29.99	MICROPROSE 6 PACK*	19.99
HITS FOR 6 #2 CD*	29.99	HITS FOR 6 #5 CD*	29.99

Items marked * are compilation packs each containing 6 games - call for detail

PLEASE CALL FOR OUR BEST PRICES ON ANY OTHER CD-ROM OR DISK BASED SOFTWARE NOT LISTED

ALL PRICES INCLUDE VAT & 1ST CLASS POSTAGE TO WITHIN THE UK

TEL: 0691 656875

micro plus
33 Bailey Street,
Oswestry,
Shropshire SY11 1SX

Access VISA

CHEQUES OR POSTAL ORDERS PAYABLE TO MICRO PLUS. PRICES SUBJECT TO CHANGE AND AVAILABILITY. PLEASE CHECK WHEN ORDERING. PRICES INCLUDE 1ST CLASS POSTAGE TO UK MAINLAND AND VAT @ 17.5%

WORLD CUP Challenge

1st World Cup Management game for Windows

Be The Bo

Have YOU got what is takes to guide YOUR team to the World Cup Final?

World Cup Challenge is a game where the decisions you make on team selection, tactics, style and more, really affect play and results. It's up to you to create a winning team!...

Telephone orders:
0628 473315
during business hours
or
081 553 6611
24hrs 7 days a week
Reference PCF 01/94

£29.95 inc VAT and P&P

- Includes all qualified '94 World Cup squads.
- All real World Cup game venues.
- Create your own team, eg: England, Scotland, France, etc.
- Includes England's 1966 World Cup winning team.
- Training, match tactics and unlimited formations make for real game play.
- Sophisticated artificial inteligence techniques update player and team statistics.
- Real-time on-line commentary.
- Full on-screen game play with substitution and change of tactics.
- Cheat mode for those who can't stand to lose.



A game for football fans - by football fans!

WinSport

on a mission

SOFTWARE Solutions

We're swamped by CD titles this month, and no, it's not because of the cover feature. The world has gone silver disc crazy, and the PCF team is keeping tabs on the situation for you.

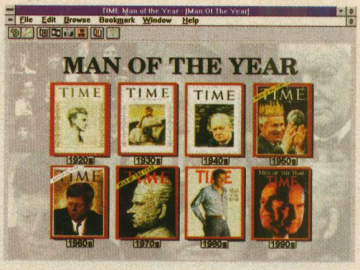
TIME MAN OF THE YEAR

PCF Recommended

£22.33 Compact/Unica ☎ 061 429 0241

AND BEFORE YOU SAY anything, no it's not sexist. The first Woman of the Year was Wallis Warfield Simpson, better known as 'Edward and Mrs'. She won the award in 1936 for causing the only voluntary abdication of a British monarch. Well, if that's all you have to do to win then let's get down to Buck House and start chatting up Lizzie. But then again, maybe that was a bit of a one-off. You can't imagine Martin Luther King or the Ayatollah Khomeini getting it on with the Queen of England, or any sort of queen for that matter.

Time Man of the Year chronicles the history of the magazine's award, from Charles Lindbergh's aerial exploits in 1927, to president Bill Clinton's, er, presidency in 1992. The CD gives you a lengthy profile of each winner, which enables you to put his or her (or even its) achievements in context. Scan down the list of winners and you see some surprising entries – Adolf Hitler in 1938, American Fighting-Man in 1950 ("The US fighting-man was not civilisation's crusader, but destiny's draftee."), and The Personal Computer in 1982. As well as admiring the Man of the Year covers of *Time* magazine, you can watch 16 video clips (including Martin Luther King's "I have a dream" speech), click through 100 or so photographs and read the full text of every issue of *Time* magazine for 1992.



What's the betting it will be Nelson Mandela for 1994?

Time Man of the Year is well worth £22.33 of anyone's money (it's £19 plus VAT, in case you were wondering). It's a fascinating cross-section of history, giving you snapshots of moments in time throughout the 20th century, and at such a sensible price you can't fail to be impressed.

Richard Longhurst

Looking elsewhere

Get some more potted history in the following thrilling CDs, but *Time Man of the Year* is the best all-rounder.

JFK Assassination
£44.99 Medio Vision, *PCF* 31, 85%
20th Century Video Almanac
£159.99 The Software Toolworks, *PCF* 28, 81%
How the World Works
£25 Unica, *PCF* 27, 51%

Time Man of the Year

Minimum system: 3Mb; VGA; 386SX; Windows 3.1; Windows-compatible soundcard; mouse; CD-ROM drive; hard disk (5Mb)
A DOS version is also available

For

- Fascinating throughout
- Well produced and presented
- Dirt cheap

Against

- Ed reckons it's dull

PCF Rating 88%

SUPERSONIC

£67.99 GEM Distribution ☎ 0279 442842



Ah, yeah, but they weren't as important as the Hurricanes, were they?

SOME FOLK COLLECT GNOMES. Some know the complete history of obscure celebs like Paul Squires (remember him?). Some can quote every line of every film that David Lynch has ever made. And some are in love with military hardware. Guess which category *Supersonic* will appeal to? Yes, come forward Paul Squires fans, your time has come.

Contained herein is all you could possibly want to know about today's state-of-the-art aviation hardware. You can gen up on Mirages, F-16s or any of 100 aircraft, including details of max speed, armament and manufacturer. Every plane has a picture, some two, and the lucky ones even get some impressive digitised video. The usual sorting facilities are included: by plane, by manufacturer, or just by descriptive category.

If dry facts don't get your juices flowing there's a takeoff simulator gagging for you to use it. This is not like the simplified models you find in *Strike Commander* or even *Tornado*, and nor is the takeoff procedure itself. A million and one steps need to be carried out before you become airborne. At the easiest difficulty setting a virtual instructor takes you through each step and points out the necessary instrumentation. Hardcore wannabes will obviously scorn this and go straight to the hardest level, where it's all down to you.

In what should be called the Unutterably Sad section lurk four games of questionable quality. A sliding puzzle doobrie brings back horrible childhood memories of being given these things for Christmas and never being able to complete them, an execrable bombing game recalls early Vic-20 days of two-pixel high sprites, and the other two memory/identification jaunts deserve to be put in a metal box, sealed with epoxy resin and dumped in a toxic waste site.

Apart from these so-called games, *Supersonic* is a fine package, and to the best of our knowledge it's the only military hardware database available. The thing is, £70 buys you a considerable acreage of hardbacks on F-117As, Hornets and the rest. You won't get the interactive stuff, but an Airfix kit should do the job. If this was £40 cheaper it'd be an ideal gift for your PC-owning survivalist friend who dresses in combat fatigues and hangs around airbases, but it's not good to encourage them, especially not at this price. →

Ed Ricketts

Supersonic

Minimum system: 2Mb; SVGA; 386SX; Windows 3.1; MPC soundcard; mouse; CD-ROM drive

For

- It's packed with a plethora of technical detail
- Detailed takeoff simulator

Against

- Why does it cost so much?

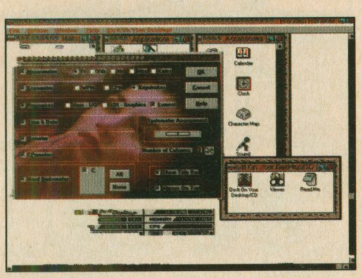
PCF Rating 56%

DO IT ON YOUR DESKTOP

£23.33 Unica ☎ 061 429 0241

OH YES, VERY *CARRY ON*. "THE Ultimate Desktop Pleasure," the box burbles on insanely. Please, it's only a collection of bitmaps, sounds and a few Windows Program Manager enhancements, not a Pedro Almodavar film.

DIOYD's functions are accessed from the Systometer, a resident program which displays hard disk space, available RAM, date, time and other useful stats in one small bar. Clicking this brings up a startling amount of sub-options which enable you to tart up the Windows interface no end. Alternative window frames abound, from stupid spacey-themed affairs to pleasant stylish designs. The fonts for title bars can also be changed and eight TrueType fonts are supplied for this. The windows themselves can be made to zoom in and out in a variety of ways, all of which slow them down so much you'll turn the effect off again straight away. Applications can change the wallpaper as soon as they load. This is somewhat pointless because the application most likely covers up most of the screen when it's running, hence no visible wallpaper. Most impressively, dialogue boxes can have a bitmap assigned as their background (200 of them are supplied). This makes them look gorgeous, but again slows their display so much it's not worth having it unless you own a fast local bus machine.



Looks like Ed has done *Twin Peaks* star Sherilyn Fenn on his desktop.

The other Program Manager enhancements are less cosmetic and more useful. They include the ability to sort groups alphabetically or to one side of the desktop (so they're visible when applications are running). There's a fast-find facility and an auto-size gizmo to set the size of a group automatically, as well as a keyboard macro recorder. Finally, a multimedia viewer enables you to browse through the pictures, videos and sounds on the CD or anywhere else you may have them. This is without doubt an incredibly useful little utility if you're a collector of such multimedia.

DIOYD is jolly enough and about all you'd expect for the price. One warning: it's supposed to work with alternative desktops, including *PC Tools for Windows*, but it doesn't – several of the programs cause a General Protection Error, at least with *PCTW2*, including the immensely handy multimedia viewer. Pity, but then if you already have an alternative desktop you're likely to have most of these capabilities anyway.

Ed Ricketts

Looking elsewhere

Shareware CDs often contain these sorts of programs, along with pictures and what have you, though in general they're not as well presented or professional.

More, but for more
So Much Shareware!
£45.83 Unica, *PCF* 16, 78%
Minerva 3
£28 ADD, *PCF* 19, 77%
Minerva 4
£29 ADD, *PCF* 23, 75%

Do it on your Desktop

Minimum system: 2Mb; SVGA; 386; Windows 3.1; mouse and a hard disk (3Mb)

For
- Plenty of bitmaps included
- Some interesting options

Against
- Doesn't work with *PCTW2*
- It's slow

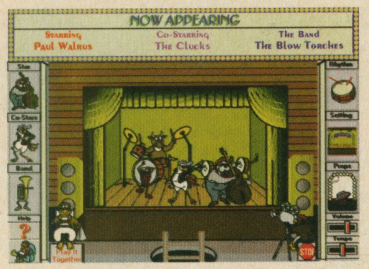
PCF Rating 72%

LENNY'S MUSICTOONS

£52.82 Paramount/Computer Manuals ☎ 021 706 6000

THINGS HAVE GOT TO A SORRY state when kids' educational programs show more imagination and excitement than most games, writes our Moaning correspondent. *Lenny's MusicToons* is a wild program, something like *Sesame Street* on lysergic acid. It follows the style of the Broderbund series of *Living Books (Just Grandma and Me, Arthur's Teacher Trouble)*, but never quite manages the same quality of animation or sound effects.

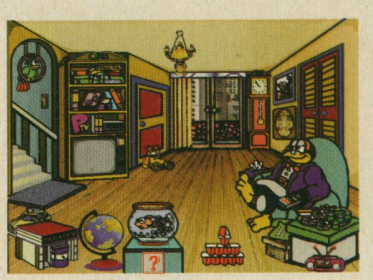
Lenny is a penguin with an unrepentantly chaotic apartment in New York, and why not? The apartment screen acts as a main menu, taking you to various games and activities, all based around music theory. Two sections, PTV (accessed through the television) and the Theatre (accessed through the, um, theatre) are similar to *Mega Rock Rap 'n' Roll* in that you arrange blocks of music randomly which then blend and meld to make a seamless whole (in theory). In practice the tune sounds like one riff of music changing into a different block with an awkward pause between them, and with a standard Sound Blaster you won't notice much difference between the musical styles, they're all bleepy-bloopy concoctions. In addition to choosing the music you can pick a star and a backing singer to prance around the screen in time to the beat – sort of, there are usually some annoying frozen frames while the jerky sprite waits for the music to catch up.



Hey man, don't you just dig those groovy vibes? It's riff-tastic.

The other games are more traditional. There's the well-loved matching game in which you flip cards and attempt to remember which symbols are beneath – God knows what this has to do with music theory. Pitch-Attack has you defending bases from alien attack by shooting the aliens and then matching the note they play on the piano keyboard. Finally, in the musical puzzle, a well-known tune is visually ripped apart into pieces. These have to be reassembled in the right order on the stave by sound alone. This is the most valuable section educationally, because it encourages recognition of individual notes by their pitch.

You can't help getting the feeling that *Lenny's MusicToons* is almost right. The animation always looks as though it could do with a few more frames and the graphics seem just a little bit amateurish. In other words, all the ingredients are there, they just need a bit more work. Educationally the package isn't that much cop, teaching a few basic notes and not much else. Still, there's a satisfying wodge of music and sound effects to bask in and plenty to play about with, particularly on the apartment screen where random clicks produce pointlessly silly animations. *Lenny's MusicToons* is a well-intentioned program with much to offer, it's just not great.



Welcome to penguin Lenny's crazy click-and-play apartment.

Ed Ricketts

Looking elsewhere

This stuff is certainly in vogue at the moment. Maybe there are a myriad of frustrated programmers out there who long to be musicians but can't be bothered to learn music theory.

Noteworthy
Miracle Piano Teaching System Software
£59.95 Mindscape, *PCF* 32, 80%
Video Jam
£39.99 EA Kids, *PCF* 32, 72%

Off-key
Mega Rock Rap 'n' Roll
£64.95 Paramount Interactive/ Computer Manuals, *PCF* 31, 43%

Lenny's MusicToons

Minimum system: 4Mb; SVGA; 386; Windows 3.1; MPC soundcard; mouse; CD-ROM drive

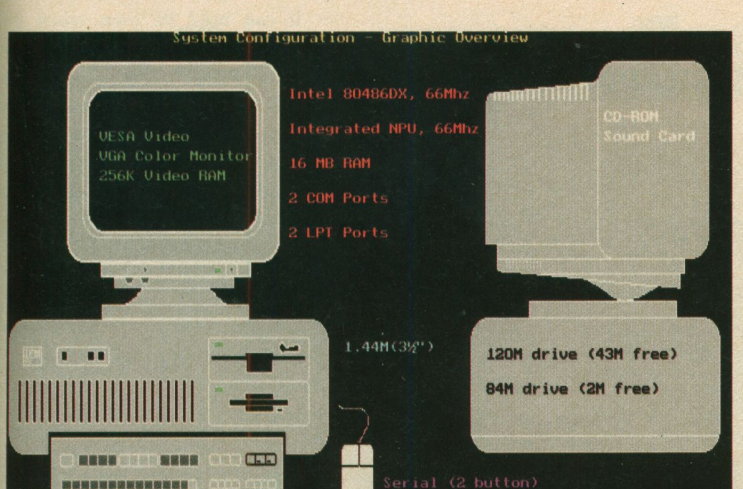
For
- Plenty of activities to get involved in

Against
- Light on educational content
- Graphics could be better

PCF Rating 69%

CHECK IT PRO

£116 S&S International ☎ 0442 877877



***Check It Pro* tells you exactly what's in your PC, only in this case it's got it slightly wrong – my video card has 1Mb rather than 256K of on-board RAM.**

PLUG IN AND PLAY, THE EXPERTS say, is still a long way off. They can design the motherboards that accept Plug in and Play boards, and they've nearly finished the BIOS that can examine newly inserted expansion cards, work out their settings, and allocate them memory addresses and IRQs. But no one as yet is designing boards and software that utilise Plug in and Play technology, so, in the meantime, we're stuck with having to work out all of these complicated settings ourselves whenever we add something new to our system. Conflicts frequently occur, which lead to crashes.

S&S International has just released a stop-gap before the introduction of true Plug in and Play, in the form of *Check It Pro* – advanced diagnostic software. Running entirely from DOS, this powerful probe uses a combination of graphical representation and text to illustrate the hardware contents of your PC – including IRQ settings and memory addresses, memory breakdown and its use, BIOS and CMOS setup, hard drive types and sizes, and so on. It's optimised to tell you as clearly as possible exactly what's going on inside your PC, and if there are any hardware conflicts you should know about.

Check It Pro also comes with a series of tools and utilities designed to troubleshoot those problem areas. It can perform a number of hardware tests, burn-in procedures, low-level hard disk formatting, virus checking and rescue disk creation. All of these can be run from the main program screen or else they can be run directly from DOS as a series of batch files.

Check It Pro appears to achieve what it sets out to do, but it's by no means perfect. The screen-grab below the text on the monitor insists that the video adaptor in the machine has 256K of on-board RAM – in fact it has 1Mb. Also, on the same system, the machine crashed when running a full memory test (possibly because it was running *QEMM 7.2*, but *Check It Pro* isn't clever enough to tell us), and after running the program Windows refused to boot. These kind of bugs detract from what is otherwise a powerful program.

This is probably the most advanced diagnostic software available, providing far more than the diagnostic elements of, say, *PC Tools* or *Norton's Desktop for Windows*. However, for the odd hardware installation, or occasional hard disk test the price doesn't justify its worth, and the presence of bugs devalues it further. If you're a PC developer or you build PCs in your spare time it's a great way of making sure everything is working as it should, but for the average home PC owner it's a little too specialised, and you'd be better advised to go for a more rounded series of tools and diagnostic tests, like those in *PC Tools for Windows 2.0*. At least with both of these you get powerful Windows management tools as well as diagnostic tests – so they're more useful for everyday purposes.

Paul Pettengale

Looking elsewhere

There are a number of utilities that perform some of the tasks available with *Check it Pro*, most of them come in tool sets, like...

PC Tools for Windows v2.0
£69 Central Point, Reviewed in next month's issue

Norton Desktop for Windows v3.0
£149 Symantech, Reviewed in next month's issue

Check It Pro

Minimum system: 512K; EGA; XT; hard disk (4Mb)

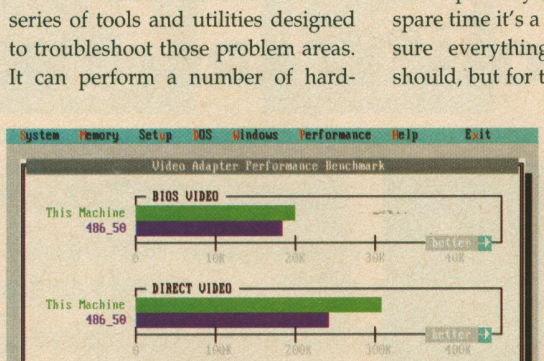
For

- Powerful diagnostic capabilities
- Easy to understand the results

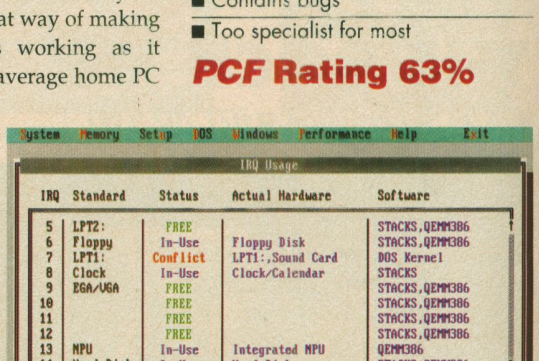
Against

- Contains bugs
- Too specialist for most

PCF Rating 63%



***Check It Pro* has a number of benchtest performance sub-programs within it – this one calculates video speed.**



The main use for *Check It Pro* is when you're installing hardware – it can inform you of possible IRQ conflicts.

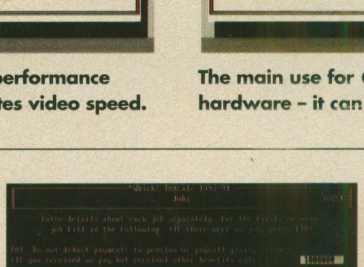
TAXCALC

£24.99 Which? Software ☎ 0800 252100

ARE YOU HAVING PROBLEMS working out how much tax you should have PAYEd last year? *Taxcalc* can work it out for you, as long as you've got all the relevant information at your fingertips, and you can put up with the rather primitive data entry screens.

The program takes you religiously through all the detailed elements of personal income, investment income and mortgage tax relief, prompting you to fill in screen after screen of financial figures. At the end of it all, you're told how much tax you (and your spouse) should have paid, and how much you're owed if by any remarkable luck you happen to have overpaid. It's all extremely useful stuff, and even if it works out that you're not owed any money, then at least you've got the piece of mind that you haven't been ripped off by the Inland Revenue. →

Richard Longhurst



It's your chance to play Fantasy Tax Rises with cuddly Kenneth Clarke.

Taxcalc

Minimum system: 512K; CGA and a 286

Optional extras: EGA; VGA

Takes up 500K hard disk space

For

- It works and could well save you some money

Against

- Could have been easier to use
- Presentation is lacking

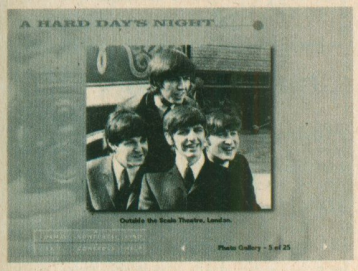
PCF Rating 70%

A HARD DAY'S NIGHT

£34.08 Voyager/Unica ☎ 061 429 0241

IS IT A PC PROGRAM OR A FILM? Actually, it's both – all 90 minutes of the movie plus 25 black-and-white still photos, a video interview with director Richard Lester, clips of his early work, and reams of text which includes the original script and an essay on the Beatles by Bruce Eder.

Given the dramatic loss in quality in the actual film footage, *A Hard Day's Night* has to work hard to make up the ground, but it doesn't quite work hard enough. It doesn't make the most of the interactive side of PC technology, and even though you can perform a word search and double-click on hot words, it's not as easy to use as *Encarta 1994* or *Cinemania 1994*. It's also unstable, causing Windows to crash with some nasty error messages.



There were four of them, and rumour has it they were fabulous.



Run the film in its largest viewing window and you get a horribly blocky and jerky Beatles show. It's a shame, but there's nothing you can do about it.

Sadly, it's another program that promises much, gets us all hot and sweaty about the potential of CD, and then leaves us cold at the final hurdle. What you really need to make these things worthwhile is ReelMagic or a similar graphics card that's specifically designed to handle full-screen, full-motion video. Compare the shots of *A Hard Day's Night* with ReelMagic titles such as *Naked Gun 2 1/2* and you can appreciate how unsatisfactory the video is.

It can hold its own when it's competing against other programs that use video, but *A Hard Day's Night* is up against VHS cassettes as well. When you compare the price to the cost of *A Hard Day's Night* video, an audio CD and a book about the Beatles, you realise that the novelty of watching a jerky stamp-sized video on your PC isn't all that great.

Richard Longhurst

A Hard Day's Night

Minimum system: 4Mb; VGA; 486; Windows 3.1; Windows-compatible soundcard; mouse; CD-ROM drive; hard disk (5Mb)

For

- It's the fab four...
- ...with their great haircuts...
- ...and their cheesy grins

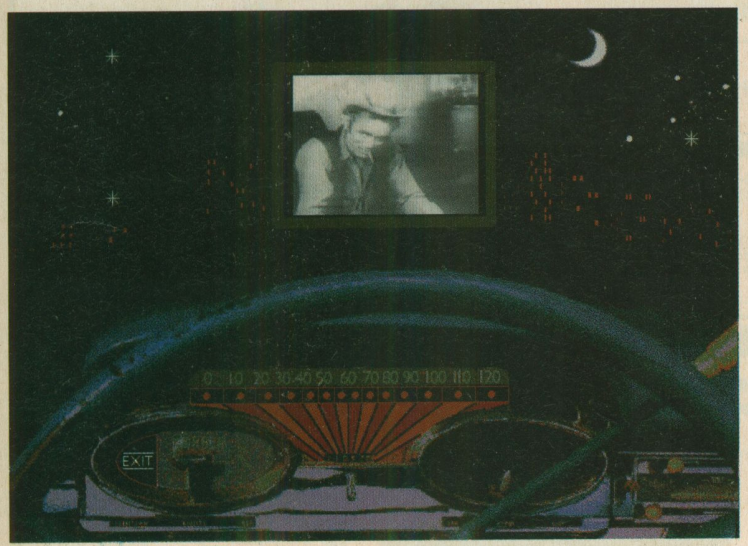
Against

- But the film quality is poor
- You can't play it as an audio CD

PCF Rating 63%

THE ROCK 'N' ROLL YEARS: THE 50s

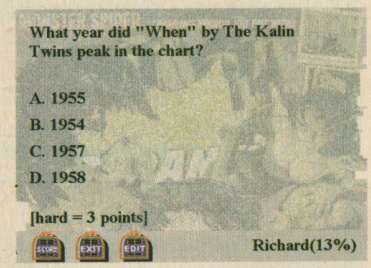
£24.99 Supervision ☎ 071 702 9391



Go on James, do that bit where you tell us to drive safely. Oh you are a one.

"ONE TWO THREE O'CLOCK four o'clock rock, five six seven o'clock eight o'clock rock, nine ten eleven o'clock twelve o'clock rock..." Ah, they don't write them like they used to, thank God. How can the banality of *Rock Around the Clock* compare with the acidic vitriol of *Panic*? "Hang the blessed DJ, for the music that he constantly plays says nothing to me about my life." But if you hark back to the innocence of the 50s, before the world was polluted by flower power and minds distorted by hallucinogenic drugs, this is an ideal CD for you. The virtual jukebox takes you through the decade month by month, offering up films of famous songs from the period, classic interviews with the stars (including James Dean advising 'the kids' to drive safely) and page after page of informative, if not particularly interesting, text.

Once again we're back to the old debate about whether there's a benefit of having the songs, films and information on CD-ROM. You can access a wide variety of films and novelty footage, but the quality's poor. You can listen to loads of songs, but you can't play the disc on an audio CD player. You can read loads of text, but there are no hot words to enable you to skip gaily from one subject to another. You don't even get still photographs of the stars.



You see, it's not just Ed who's utterly obsessed with *Twin Peaks*.

The Rock 'n' Roll Years is an adequate exhibition of the decade's music and moods, but only just. The interface is workman-like, the presentation's functional but dull, and the loading times are frequently tardy. It's cheap, but as they say, cheap is cheap. Oh well, back down to HMV for a CD and video. PCF

Richard Longhurst

Looking elsewhere

Supervision's going to take us on a musical mystery tour right up to 1989. The next three CDs in the series will be out this year, so expect to see one every three months, with The 60s coming out in June for £24.99. If classical music is more up your alley, as it were, watch out for Microsoft's Multimedia series (which includes Beethoven, Stravinsky and Mozart for £49 each) and The Software Toolworks' new line of classic CDs, which includes Beethoven's 5th and Tchaikovsky's 1812 Overture, both costing a rounded £39.99.

The Rock 'n' Roll Years: the 50s

Minimum system: 4Mb; SVGA; 386DX; Windows 3.1; Windows-compatible soundcard; mouse; CD-ROM drive; hard disk (1Mb)

For

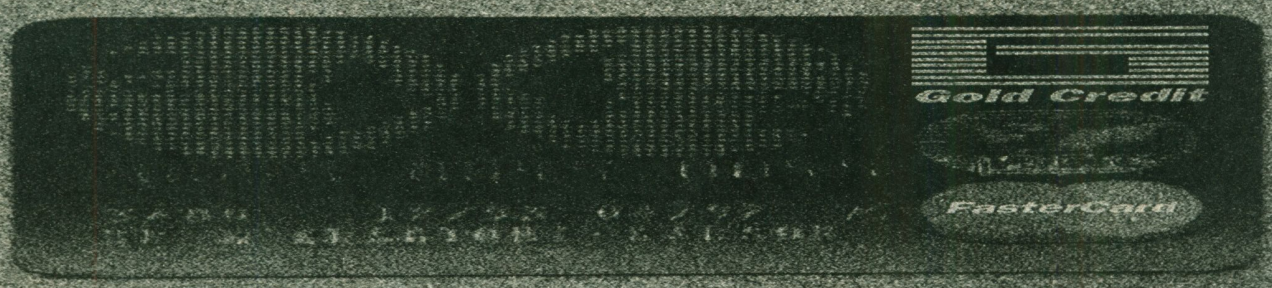
- Loads of songs and films

Against

- Poor quality clips
- No hot words or word search

PCF Rating 51%

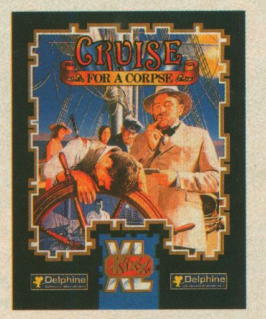
A CD collection that won't stretch your plastic



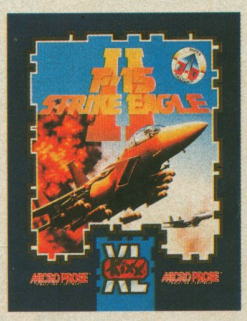
TOP CD-ROM TITLES FOR UNDER £15



Eye of the Beholder



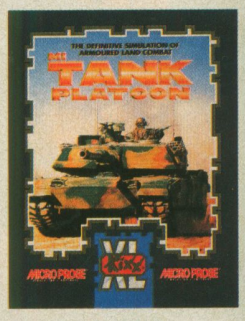
Cruise for a Corpse



F-15 Strike Eagle II

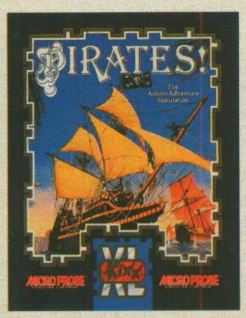


F-19 Stealth Fighter

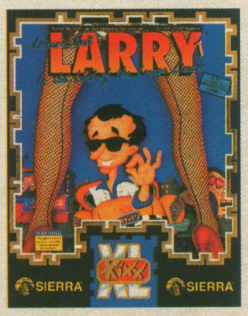


M1 Tank Platoon

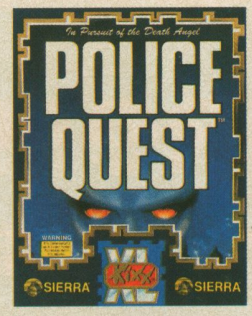
- **EVERY TITLE IS FULLY PLAYABLE FROM CD**
- **ENJOY DESERT ISLAND ANTICS WITH JOHNNY CASTAWAY AND ADD THE WORLD'S FIRST STORYTELLING SCREEN SAVER TO YOUR WINDOWS PACKAGE (USUAL RRP £19.99)**
- **ALSO INCLUDED ARE OVER 20 CURRENT INTERACTIVE AND ROLLING DEMOS FROM THE WORLD'S LEADING SOFTWARE PUBLISHERS**



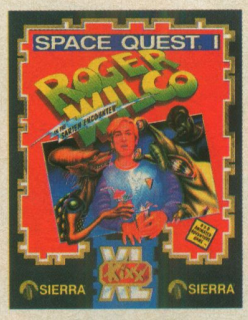
Pirates!



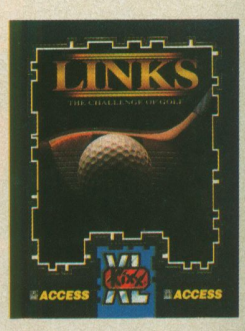
Leisure Suit Larry 1™



Police Quest™ 1



Space Quest® 1



Links - The Challenge of Golf

KIXX XL is Europe's leading mid-price software publisher and is renowned for its wide variety of top quality titles from the world's most prestigious software houses, including LucasArts, Sierra On-Line, Delphine, SSI, MicroProse, U.S. Gold and Access. The brand offers a host of genres from flight simulations and sports simulations to graphic adventures and role-playing games.

KIXX XL now gives you the opportunity to purchase these classic titles for your PC CD-ROM for only £14.99 each. All titles are fully playable from CD and include over 20 current demos and a screen saver.

Quality & CHOICE... Make the ConneXion

CD - 06

For further information on KIXX XL's CD-ROM range, please complete this coupon and return it to the address below:

Name:.....

Address:.....

Postcode:.....



KIXX, 1-4 Cuckoo Wharf, Lichfield Road, Birmingham B6 7SS. Tel: 021 625 3311 Fax: 021 625 3312.

All trademarks are acknowledged as the property of their respective owners.


Future PUBLISHING
PC Plus
Issue 93 June 1994 £2.95
FIRST CD-ROM EDITION!
ALL of Intel's new chips tried and tested...
100 MHz
The DX4 PCs Intel doesn't want you to buy!
Plus 90MHz Pentiums, and Exclusive - Compaq's first 486SX2
ON TEST
Lasers from £400
OS/2 for Windows
PC Tools 2.0
FIRST LOOKS
dBASE for Windows
Pentium notebook
HIGH DENSITY DISK EDITION!
Working version of Filemaker Pro!
Super CD
Simply the best!
JUNE 1994 ISSUE 93
If the SuperDisk is missing, please ask your newsagent
NEW
NEW CD-ROM edition:
Hundreds of megabytes of great software for you to use every month!
On sale: Thursday 19th May
Available in larger newsagents only Subscriptions Hotline: 0225 822511

486 PC SCOOP PURCHASE!

AMBRA PCs
MADE BY IBM

SPECIFICATIONS

- **Desktop - Intel 80486SX 25MHz**
  Mini Tower - Intel 80486DX 33MHz
  Intel 80486DX2 66MHz
- **CPUs fully upgradeable through 486 Series and Overdrive processors**
- **Pentium Technology Ready**
- **240Mb IDE Hard Drive**
  Drive capacity can be increased using the MS DOS 6 DoubleSpace
- **14" S-VGA .28mm MPRII (Low Radiation)**
- **4Mb RAM (Max 36Mb Desktop, 32Mb Tower)**
  RAM expandable using industry standard 1Mb, 4Mb and 16Mb 32-bit 72-pin SIMMs
- **8K Integral on Chip Cache RAM**
- **External Cache**
  Desktop - Optional Upgrade to 64K, 128K or 256K
  Mini Tower - 128K Standard (256K Max)

FREE SOFTWARE
MS DOS V6
WINDOWS V3.1
WORKS FOR WINDOWS V3
- WORD PROCESSOR
- SPREADSHEET
- DATABASE
- COMMUNICATIONS
- GRAPHICS

WITH ALL MODELS

- **3½" 1.44Mb Floppy Disk Drive**
- **Expansion Slots**
  Desktop - 3 FREE 16-bit 'ISA' Slots
  Mini Tower - 5 FREE 16-bit 'ISA' Slots
  1 FREE VESA Local Bus Slot
- **Drive Bays**
  Desktop - 1 FREE 5¼" Half Height
  Mini Tower - 3 FREE 2x5¼" Half Height 1x3½"
- **Fast VESA Local Bus Graphics**
  With CIRRUS Logic Windows Accelerator
  Desktop - GD-5424
  Mini Tower - GD-5428
- **Video RAM**
  Desktop - 512K (256 colours at 800x600) upgradeable to 1Mb
  Mini Tower - 1Mb (256 colours at 1024x768)
- **Small Footprint**
  Desktop - 351mm(W) x 107mm(H) x 409mm(D)
  Mini Tower - 169mm(W) x 350mm(H) x 422mm(D)
- **2 Serial Ports, 1 Parallel Port, PS/2 Type Keyboard and Mouse Ports**
- **Ergonomic 102 Key PS/2 Type Keyboard**
- **PS/2 Type Mouse + Mat**
- **1 Year On-Site Warranty**
  8 working hour call out

sprinta II DESKTOP PC

THE BEST PRICES FOR THESE SPEC.



VESA Local Bus Graphics on all models

INCLUDES ON-SITE W'TY WITH IBM

FREE! MS DOS 6 WINDOWS 3.1 WORKS FOR WINDOWS 3

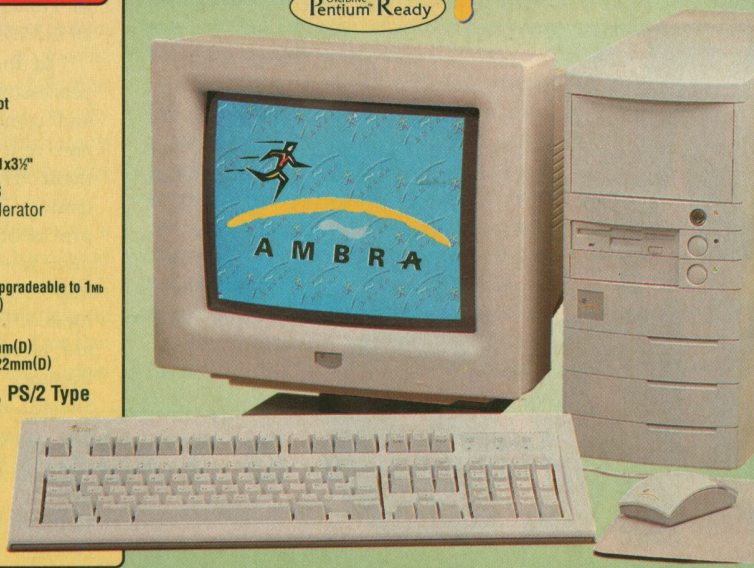
486SX 25MHz
240Mb HD
4Mb RAM
14" S-VGA
.28mm MPRII MONITOR
WINDOWS ACCELERATOR
VESA LOCAL BUS
3 FREE EXPN SLOTS
1 FREE DRIVE BAY

486SX 25MHz
£799
+VAT = £938.83
Ref: IPC 0424 + MON 0024

FREE DELIVERY IN UK MAINLAND

hurdla mT MINI TOWER PC

OverDrive Pentium Ready



VESA Local Bus Graphics on all models

INCLUDES ON-SITE W'TY WITH IBM

FREE! MS DOS 6 WINDOWS 3.1 WORKS FOR WINDOWS 3

486DX/DX2 33/66MHz
240Mb HD
4Mb RAM
14" S-VGA
.28mm MPRII MONITOR
WINDOWS ACCELERATOR
VESA LOCAL BUS
3 FREE EXPN SLOTS
1 FREE DRIVE BAY

486DX 33MHz	486DX2 66MHz
£999	**£1199**
+VAT = £1173.83	+VAT = £1408.83
Ref: IPC 4324 + MON 0024	Ref: IPC 5562 + MON 0024

THE SILICA SERVICE

SILICA 1978 15 YEARS 1993 SERVICE TO YOU

Before you decide when to buy your new computer, we suggest you think very carefully about WHERE you buy it. Consider what it will be like a few months after you have made your purchase, when you may require additional peripherals or software, or help and advice. And, will the company you buy from contact you with details of new products? At Silica, we ensure that you will have nothing to worry about. With our unrivalled experience and expertise, we can meet our customers' requirements with an understanding which is second to none. Complete and return the coupon now for our latest FREE literature and begin to experience the "Silica Service".

- ***FREE OVERNIGHT DELIVERY:*** On all hardware orders shipped in the UK mainland (there is a small charge for Saturday delivery).
- ***TECHNICAL SUPPORT HELPLINE:*** A team of technical experts will be at your service.
- ***PRICE MATCH:*** We match competitors on a "Same product - Same price" basis.
- ***ESTABLISHED 15 YEARS:*** We have a proven track record in professional computer sales.
- ***PART OF A £50M A YEAR COMPANY:*** With over 200 staff - We are solid, reliable and profitable.
- ***BUSINESS + EDUCATION + GOVERNMENT:*** Volume discounts are available. **Tel: 081-308 0888.**
- ***SHOWROOMS:*** We have demonstration facilities at all our stores.
- ***THE FULL STOCK RANGE:*** All of your computer requirements are available from one specialist supplier.
- ***FREE CATALOGUES:*** Will be mailed to you, with special reduced price offers, as well as details on all software and peripherals.
- ***PAYMENT:*** We accept most major credit cards, cash, cheque or monthly terms (APR 29.8% - written quotes on request).

SILICA

SILICA IS A DIVISION OF FRODS PLC

09002804/4

MAIL ORDER
PLUS TECHNICAL AND HEAD OFFICE
081-309 1111

1-4 The Mews, Hatherley Road, Sidcup, Kent, DA14 5SS

PLUS BRANCHES AT:

CHELMSFORD **Tel: 0245 355511**
Debenhams (2nd Floor), 27 High St, Chelmsford, Essex, CM1 1DA

CROYDON **Tel: 081-688 4455**
Debenhams (2nd Floor), 11-31 North End, Croydon, Surrey, CR9 1RQ

GLASGOW **Tel: 041-221 0088**
Debenhams (5th Floor), 97 Argyle St, Glasgow, Strathclyde, G2 8AR

IPSWICH **Tel: 0473 221313**
Debenhams (2nd Floor), Westgate Street, Ipswich, IP1 3EH

LONDON
52 Tottenham Court Road **Tel: 071-580 4000**
Debenhams (3rd Floor), 334 Oxford St **Tel: 071-493 3735**
Selfridges (Basement Arena), 369 Oxford St **Tel: 071-629 1234**

MANCHESTER **Tel: 061-832 8666**
Debenhams (3rd Floor), Market Street, Manchester, M60 1TA

SIDCUP **Tel: 081-302 8811**
1-4 The Mews, Hatherley Road, Sidcup, Kent, DA14 4DX

SOUTHEND **Tel: 0702 468039**
Keddies (2nd Floor), High St, Southend-on-Sea, Essex, SS1 1LA

To: Silica, PCFOR-0694-212, 1-4 The Mews, Hatherley Rd, Sidcup, Kent, DA14 4DX

PLEASE SEND INFORMATION ON AMBRA PCs

Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms: ..... Initials: .....

Surname: .....

Company (if applicable): .....

Address: .....

.....

.....

.....

..... Postcode: .....

Tel (Home): .....

Tel (Work): .....

Which computer(s), if any, do you own?

..... 212A

E&OE - Advertised prices and specifications may change - Please return the coupon for the latest information.



ILLUSTRATION: ANDREW HUMBLEY

NEW WORD ORDER

Almost everybody uses word processors, and there seems to be a new one available every week. Mat Broomfield puts the top packages through some rigorous testing. And comes out with a rather nasty case of repetitive strain injury as a result.

Whether you use your PC for games, home business or running a multi-billion pound empire, it's odds-on that you own at least one word processor. The word processor is one of the most basic and frequently used pieces of software available, and some companies spend millions of pounds trying to convince you that their program is the best. But do you really need all of the bells and whistles that seem to be an obligatory part of each new program?

Word processors were originally designed to replace the typewriter as a means of getting neatly formatted text on to paper. As such, you only really need a few basic features: word-wrap, variable line spacing, tabs, margins and variable justification. A variety of typefaces is an added bonus.

Added frills make your life easier, but how much, and at what price? If you're a weekend dabbler using your PC to tap out the occasional letter, there's no justification for spending hundreds of pounds on a big impressive program like *Word* or *WordPerfect*. On the other hand, if you run a business which mails hundreds of letters a week, the additional ease-of-use and print quality that such a program affords more than justifies its price-tag. There are packages to satisfy every taste, and every wallet, from shareware to packages requiring a second mortgage (*Word for Windows* costs a massive £464, but has an incredible range of features).

At the top end of the market, word processors are becoming so powerful and comprehensive that you no longer receive a single program, but a suite of them. The line between desktop publishing (DTP) programs and word processors has been blurring over the past few years. Word processors can import graphics and some have drawing tools. DTP programs on the other hand, are being supplied with spellcheckers, thesauri and even grammar checkers. Several of the packages reviewed here can also import spreadsheet data directly, and a couple of them can even perform number-crunching operations upon the imported data. As if that wasn't enough, one program also comes complete with a rudimentary index-card database system, integrating mailmerge and database functions directly into the word processor.

With the growth of affordable electronic communications and fax technology, it's hardly surprising to see that comms software is included with a few programs, and two of them can send pages directly from the screen to a fax machine, assuming you have the necessary modem.

Competition is fierce, and the retail prices quoted often have little to do with the eventual street price. The rule for buying is, as ever, look around before you hand over your hard-earned cash. It could save you hundreds of pounds.

WORD FOR WINDOWS 6

PCF Recommended

£464 (RRP) Microsoft ☎ 0734 270000

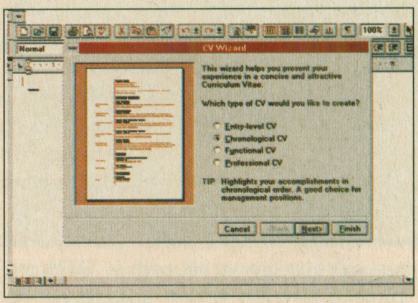
IF WORD PROCESSORS WERE countries, *Word* would be America to *WordPerfect's* Russia. The two superpowers of the printed word. Each program is excellent, and each has unique features – your job is to match the features with your requirements.

Of course, whenever you buy a Microsoft product, you buy a high degree of compatibility, not least with other Microsoft programs. For example, *Word* includes a powerful macro language with which you can program the word processor to do virtually anything. This language is a subset of the Visual Basic language, also published by Microsoft, and programs written in Visual Basic can be directly applied to *Word*.

One popular innovation to be found in *Word* is a feature called Wizards. These are similar to *WordPerfect's* templates, except they do even more of the work for you. Whereas a template provides you with a blank pre-styled document, leaving you to fill in your personal information manually, Wizards put the information into the right place for you, using a series of yes/no answers and text requesters to find out the info. Another clever feature Microsoft has included is 'WordPerfect Help'. This enables you to switch the program to work in *WordPerfect* mode, so if you've just upgraded from the rival product your learning curve is not as extreme as it otherwise would be.

For those of you who make a lot of mistakes, *Word* also includes a handy undo/redo option whereby you can view your recent work as a list of activities (typing, font changes and graphics editing, for example). Scroll through this list until you reach the point to which you want to revert. This and many other features make *Word* a truly stimulating piece of software. It's innovative, looks elegant and feels great.

PCF Rating 88%



There are rumours that version 7 of *Word* can even make the tea for you.

EXCITING WP TOOLS, PART 1

OLE or, to English-speakers, Object Linking and Embedding. Paste a pie chart from your OLE-compatible spreadsheet into your also-OLE-compatible WP, alter the pie chart in the spreadsheet and, er, olé, the copy in the WP document is automatically updated too. Coo.

WORDPERFECT 6 FOR WINDOWS

PCF Recommended

£387 (RRP) WordPerfect Corporation ☎ 0932 850500

THIS PROGRAM INCORPORATES ALL of the features found in the DOS version (reviewed below) and houses them in an even easier-to-use package. One of the program's major selling points is its configurability and ease of use. The top of the screen is occupied by a couple of button bars, each button performing a specific function or producing a menu of further operations. The button bars can be redefined so that you choose which tools appear on the screen, but you're likely to be satisfied with the default selection.

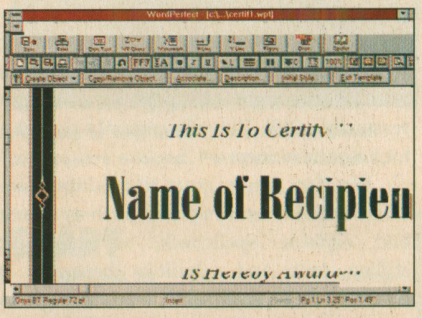
The program comes complete with a graphics editor that would have been good enough to sell on its own a few years ago. It also includes an excellent and entertaining feature called Text Art. This is an editor that conforms the text of your choice to a variety of interesting shapes, including hexagons, circles and various abstract ones such as swirls, sweeps and ripples.

Also included are more than 70 predefined document templates into which you merely insert your text. Not only do these save you time, but they also act as examples when you come to create your own documents.

Printing is excellent, with full support for all major scalable font types, including Postscript and TrueType. For speedy proofs, you can opt to use your printer's built-in typefaces, leaving *WordPerfect* to do the work when it comes to colour or mono final output. Alternatively, you can save your documents as Postscript files for export to other programs or output devices.

The program is supported by comprehensive on-line help, and the most extensive reference and tutorial manuals of any word processor. In fact, it's extremely difficult to fault. Yes, it's a lot of money, but you certainly do get a lot of features.

PCF Rating 87%



***WordPerfect 6 for Windows* has more features than you could hope to use.**

EXCITING WP TOOLS, PART 2

TrueType fonts. These beauties are stored as outlines rather than bitmaps, much like PostScript fonts, except that they can be printed to any sort of printer. Because they're outlines and can be scaled with gay abandon, they give the best possible output on anything from a dot matrix to a laser printer.

WORDPERFECT 6 FOR DOS

PCF Recommended

£387 (RRP) WordPerfect Corporation ☎ 0932 850500

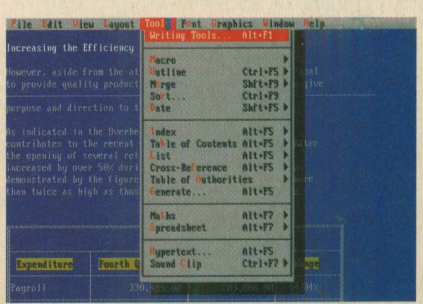
IN THE SUPER-LEAGUE OF WORD processors, *WordPerfect* is one of the top programs. One glimpse makes other DOS products appear tawdry by comparison.

You can take it as read that *WordPerfect* has virtually everything you could possibly imagine, ranging from tables and multi-column layouts, graphics support, and numerous import and export formats. And you're not only limited to importing text. You can also bring in graphics, data and spreadsheet information. Once *WordPerfect for DOS* has imported spreadsheet data into tables, its extensive mathematical functions also enable it to perform complex calculations upon your data.

The user interface is a model of clean functionality. Although this program is identical in price to the Windows program, the Windows version requires twice as much disk space and a more expensive processor.

Other features include the ability, if you have a suitable modem, to send faxes directly from the program. A fax cover sheet is provided in template form to make life easier. As you would expect, the software also includes a spellchecker, although surprisingly it only uses a 117,000-word dictionary – not that large by today's standards. *Grammatik 5*, a grammar checker, is fully integrated into the program. Using a set of user-definable preferences, with which you specify how formal or casual you want the grammar rules to be, *Grammatik* ensures elegant writing. In fact, *WordPerfect's* full capabilities are unlikely to be explored by even the most demanding typists among you.

PCF Rating 85%



***WordPerfect 6 for DOS* hides its powerful options behind an unassuming exterior.**

→

WORDSTAR 2 FOR WINDOWS

PCF Recommended

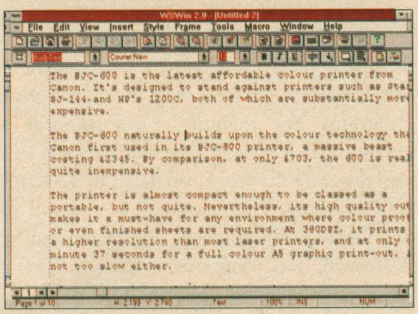
£49.95 (RRP) SoftKey ☎ 081 789 2000

ALTHOUGH WORDSTAR IS NO *WORD* OR *WordPerfect*, it doesn't pretend to be, nor is it in anything like the same price bracket. However, it is a significant step up from programs like *Universal Word* and *PC Easy* in terms of the features it sports. These include a hefty 190,000-word dictionary for spellchecking, a 143,000-word thesaurus and a comprehensive grammar checker. The latter is particularly unusual in a product of this price as grammar checkers often cost more than this on their own. It's also the only budget program to support both columns and tables.

In many ways, *WordStar for Windows* has more in common with a DTP program than other word processors. For example, the usable area of the page is shown on-screen as a box, rather than the traditional custom in which only side margins are displayed. The program also supports paragraph style-tags which enable you to alter the characteristics of entire paragraphs by simply selecting a predefined tag from a list. The inclusion of 19 document templates means that you can create finished pages quickly and easily by filling in the blanks, rather than having to trouble yourself with document design concerns.

A user-definable button bar and macro options enable you to tailor the program to your exact working requirements with a little effort. The main screen is clean and functional, yet intuitive and comprehensive. You won't waste hours navigating pointless buttons and mystifying menus with this program – it's just straight down to work.

PCF Rating 84%



***WordStar* offers the best value for money, and is perfect for inexperienced users.**

THRILLING WP TOOLS, PART 3

Toolbars. Most Windows and some DOS word processors now have customisable toolbars. Rather than choosing commands from a cumbersome menu, you can include your most frequently used ones in a toolbar, where they're only a click away.

WORDSTAR 7 FOR DOS

PCF Recommended

£469 (RRP) SoftKey ☎ 081 789 2000

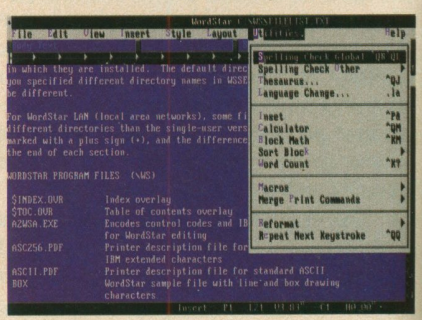
WORDSTAR INSTANTLY FEELS GOOD, and, even though it doesn't have the sleekness of its Windows-based relatives, there's nothing second-best about this software, which is just as well, given its gigantic price tag. At a price of nearly £500 you can't help wondering if its manufacturers simply forgot to adjust the price to a more realistic level when they released their Windows version (currently selling at a stunningly reasonable £49). But you certainly do get a lot for your money.

WordStar offers great text editing features, with the usual options such as search and replace, spellcheck, variable text styling, fonts and a built-in thesaurus. It also includes 'power-user' features such as macros which can be used to perform entire sequences of operations at a single key press. While it supports multiple columns for newspaper and leaflet style layouts, it's surprising to discover that it doesn't support tables.

The program gives the impression of being designed for the user who needs to process large volumes of text, such as essays or books. You might think that its lack of Windows compliance is a disadvantage, and the user-interface is less attractive than it could be. Despite this, all of the important options are quick and easy to access, as virtually nothing is hidden. Compare this to *WordPerfect* where some options require you to negotiate three or four nested menus, and you can appreciate *WordStar's* cleaner approach.

Strangely enough, despite not being a Windows program, *WordStar* supports the Windows clipboard for data exchange. It's more satisfying than you might imagine but, particularly compared to the Windows version, it's priced out of the market.

PCF Rating 80%



***WordStar 7* looks and feels great, but at an RRP of nearly £500 it's too expensive.**

UNIVERSAL WORD

£93 Prestige Network ☎ 0344 303800

UNIVERSAL WORD IS A WINDOWS product that belies its drab packaging. Aimed at the lower end of the market, both in terms of price and features, it's a straightforward piece of software.

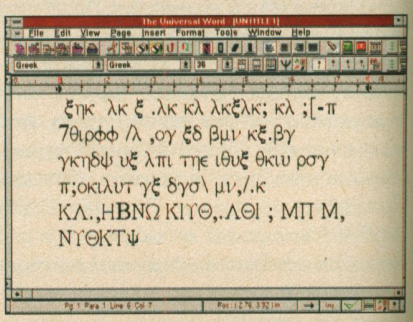
The program includes a 140,000-word English dictionary and a 470,000-word thesaurus. As with almost all other word processors in this round-up, foreign language supplements are available as optional extras. However, unlike any of the others, *Universal Word's* multilingual abilities extend considerably further than merely recognising the difference between "yes" and "oui". For starters, it comes with a number of foreign language fonts, including Cyrillic (Russian), Greek, Frankreuhl (Hebrew), Naskh (Arabic) and many more. As if that wasn't enough, the keyboard layout is automatically modified according to the language chosen. That means that if the language is usually written right to left on the page, that's how the cursor moves on the screen.

Given the program's talent for languages, the fact that it is also a decent processor almost seems like an added bonus. While it doesn't have the flashy features of its pricier cousins, it certainly gives you the basic tools to produce good quality printed output.

Universal Word provides you with a button bar to simplify access to frequently used program features. These are limited to functions such as typographical control, file handling, search and replace and other word processor fundamentals.

For those of you who don't want to waste a week looking through a manual before you start work, *Universal Word* is a good choice.

PCF Rating 75%



With *Universal Word* it's all Greek, or Russian, or just about any language.

PC WRITE

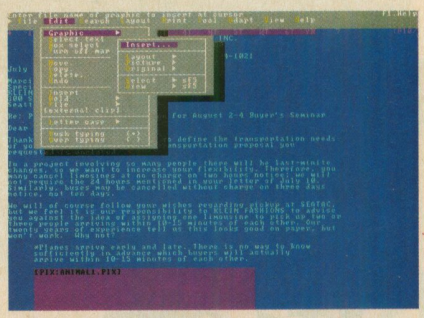
$88 (£55) registration fee (shareware) PDSL ☎ 0892 663298

WHILE THIS IS THE ONLY SHAREWARE word processor reviewed, it's every bit as fully featured as some of its commercial rivals. Once you've installed the program, you can configure it to your exact working preferences using the comprehensive customisation section. This enables you to set everything from the printer you're using (it supports most popular models) to the screen colours. The main screen looks rather cluttered and could do with better design to clarify the numerous elements of the menu bar. As it stands, there are simply layers and layers of brightly coloured text strips, all competing for your attention.

The quickest way to appreciate the program's potential is by loading in the tutorial document that's supplied with it. This demonstrates a number of fundamental program concepts such as tabs, page layout and how to incorporate colour into a document. It's a pity that the demo version we received didn't also demonstrate how to include graphics, because it is surprising to discover any graphics support at all in a shareware program. However, *PC Write* falls down when it comes to importing alien file formats such as .BMP and .PCX graphics, or documents created in *Word*, for example. Still, at least it can convert and import *WordPerfect* documents.

The program is clearly aimed at the undemanding user. Although it does incorporate a surprising number of features, such as a thesaurus and spellchecker, graphics import and even a stress counter (which tells you if you're working too hard), it certainly isn't the most user-friendly package on the market. And it's no cheaper than *WordStar 2 for Windows*.

PCF Rating 64%



***PC Write* – expensive to register. There are better, cheaper commercial programs.**

PC EASY

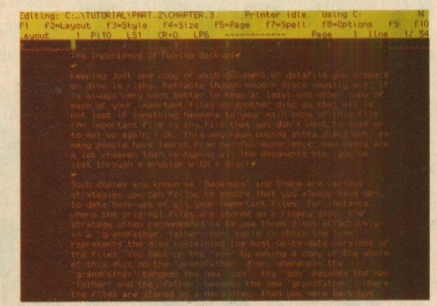
£49.95 Locomotive Software ☎ 0306 740606

AT £49.95 NO-ONE CAN ACCUSE *PC Easy* of being too pricey. It's designed to run from DOS or Windows, although it features none of the Windows niceties – it doesn't even support a mouse. However, it's apparent that the program has been designed for the undemanding novice user. For example, there are a only few menus, which are accessed by pressing the function keys [F1] to [F11], each of which calls up a different menu, which works well.

The program offers all the basic features a word processor should: a simple-to-use text editor, basic text styling, word-wrap and a dictionary. If your only concern is to get words on to paper, rather than creating a work of art, then this program is worth considering.

PC Easy does include mailmerge capabilities, which means that given the correct codes and a suitable address database it can print hundreds of letters, automatically inserting personalised information into each one. The program also includes a unique integrated card-index database, enabling you to store and retrieve your address records without having to load another program. With its simple approach, *PC Easy* is ideal for undemanding or novice users. PCF

PCF Rating 64%



***PC Easy* is one of the most basic word processors around. Perhaps too basic...**

EXCITING WP TOOLS, PART 4

Text conversion. It's no longer the case that if you want to export text from one WP to another, you have to lose all formatting and style commands. Any decent WP has the capability to interrogate the incoming text, working out which format it's in and converting it to the native format, keeping all style commands intact. *Very* clever.

WORD PROCESSOR COMPARISON CHART

	WordStar 7 for DOS	WordStar 2 for Windows	Universal Word	PC Easy	WordPerfect 6.0 for Windows	WordPerfect 6.0 for DOS	Microsoft Word for Windows 6.0	PC Write
DOS/Windows	DOS 2.11	Windows 3.1	Windows 3.1	DOS 3.0	Windows 3.1	DOS 6.0	Windows 3.1	DOS 3
Dictionary	100,000 words	190,000 words	140,000 words	80,000 words	117,000 words	117,000 words	170,700 words	Yes
Thesaurus	220,000 words	143,000 words	470,000	No	150,000	150,000	200,000	Yes
Grammar checker	No	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Foreign dictionary	Optional	Optional	Optional	No	Optional	Optional	Optional	No
Columns	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Tables	No	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Macros	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Mailmerge	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Graphics	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Graphics editor	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Clipboard support	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Multiple documents	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Templates	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No
Customisable toolbox	No	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Mouse	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Fax support	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes	No	No
Built-in comms s/w	Yes	No	No	No	No	Yes	No	No
Maths functions	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes, loads	Yes, loads	Yes, loads	No
File formats	Many	Average	Many	Few	Many	Many	Many	Few
Page preview	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Colour	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Installation	OK	Good	OK	Good	Good	Good	Good	OK
Display	Hercules	VGA	EGA	Hercules	VGA	Hercules	EGA	EGA
Processor	286	386	286	8088	386	286	286	286
Manual	Comprehensive	Simplistic	Simplistic	Adequate	Superlative	Comprehensive	Comprehensive	None
Price	£469	£49	£93	£49.95	£387	£387	£464	£55
Disk space	6Mb	16Mb	5Mb	500K	32Mb	16Mb	24Mb	5Mb

The Multimedia Solution that can't be beaten!

WESTERN SYSTEMS



intel inside

£1199

FREE 486SX!! HOW?

This ***outstanding offer*** is made possible with this bundle of **25 CD Titles**. If bought separately the bundle would be valued at over £500. This, together with the headphones, joystick, high value stereo speakers and latest technology in CD-ROM and sound card makes it an outstanding offer. It really looks as if you are getting a **486SX-25** computer **FREE**.

Can this offer be beaten?



SELECTION OF 25 CD TITLES

REFERENCE AND EDUCATION

- Multimedia Encyclopedia
- World Atlas
- Space Shuttle
- 1993 Guinness Records
- Mavis Beacon Teaches Typing
- Adventures
- National Parks
- US Atlas

BUSINESS

- Microsoft Works (Multimedia eddition).
- Microsoft Multimedia Pack for Windows 3.1
- Macromedia Action!
- Clipmedia II SE

ENTERTAINMENT

- Star Trek 25th Anniversary
- Stellar 7
- Lord of the Rings
- King's Quest VI
- Battle Chess
- Mind Shadow
- Dragon Wars
- Wasteland
- Tass Times in Tonetown
- Out of this World
- The Bard's Tale
- Castles
- Chessmaster 3000.

PLUS 11 Audio floppy programs

AWARD WINNING 486SX-25

- 4Mb RAM - 128K cache
- 210Mb 13ms hard disk
- 1Mb LB graphics accelerator
- 14" SVGA NI MPRII monitor
- Double speed CD-ROM
- 16 bit stereo sound card
- Powerful 8 Watt stereo speakers
- Headphone with built in microphone
- Stand alone microphone with stand
- Precision joystick

HIGHER SPECIFICATIONS

Call for Details

Total Multimedia System
Meets or Exceeds Basic Requirements for Multimedia PC
SOUND FX 16 BIT STEREO
PHOTO CD READY MULTI SESSION
COMPACT disc DIGITAL AUDIO
PC2 Multimedia PC
Products may vary in appearance from photo

To order: Contact your nearest regional sales office on one of the numbers below.

LONDON (Head Office)	BIRMINGHAM	LEEDS	GLASGOW
TEL: 081 845 8383	TEL: 021 200 3070	TEL: 0532 343663	TEL: 041 353 3533

All prices exclusive of VAT and delivery. All sales subject to Western Systems (Europe) Limited Terms and Conditions, available on application. All Trade Marks recognised.

HARDWARE Solutions

Lightly stroking the nape of technology's neck, Hardware Solutions this month gives good local bus and drools disgustingly over a Pentium. Ed Ricketts warms his fingers.

THAT VIDIOLA AFFAIR

REMEMBER LAST MONTH'S Hardware Solutions? Remember the Orchid Vidiola, of which we asked, "Is it the best digitiser we've ever reviewed?" To which the answer was a convinced, "Yes, as a matter of fact." You might have thought otherwise from the evidence of the featured screen grabs. They looked, to be blunt, utter dross, full of noise and blurred colour.

Quite how this happened is beyond us – something went tragically wrong in the printing process, we suspect – but we'd just like to reassure you that the results you can get from the Vidiola are a hundred times better than these. (Let's be honest, a blind iguana with palsy and a heart condition could do better than that.) Don't be fooled by the grabs, this is a quality bit of kit.



There, you see? A much nicer prospect from the Vidiola.



***Kelvin n.* graphics card of variety *local bus*, capable of extreme speeds. [From Middle English *keelvain*, literally "bloody fast."]**

KELVIN 64/VLB

£175 (1Mb version), £234 (2Mb version)
Orchid ☎ 0256 479898

PC FORMAT Award

SEEKERS OF KNOWLEDGE OFTEN address the oracle Ed in Resolutions with regard to accelerator cards. "Which is the fastest?" they humbly enquire. This knowledge duly dispensed, the wise and kindly mage always warns that Windows accelerator cards are not as fast when running DOS applications and, in fact, they can often be slower than a standard card.

But the Kelvin 64/VESA Local Bus is not just a Windows accelerator card. It's designed to provide equal acceleration in all modes – text and graphic, true-colour and standard 256-colour – through the use of 64-bit linear acceleration based on DRAM chips. Only a few people know precisely what this means, but the great thing is that it doesn't matter – it's terrifyingly fast.

You'd expect a local bus card to be nippy anyway, but this one just goes through the roof. The Wintach test is a standard developed to measure the relative speed of graphics boards (and can be found on the *PCF* CD-ROM given away with our May issue). Using this test, the Kelvin notches up a porky rating of 35 or so. Doesn't mean much? Well, a Tseng 4000 running the ET4000 turbo drivers, which is a fairly average accelerator card, managed a rating of about 8. And there's no speed penalty in true-colour mode. In 640x480 res, with 16.7 million colours, its Wintach rating was actually significantly higher. Play a graphically-intensive game such as *Ultima 8* or *Doom* and your breath is not only taken away, it's incarcerated in a small dingy cell for years.

Rather than accessing the Windows drivers through the usual Setup program, you run a separate configuration programette. From this you can change the resolution and number of colours, as you'd expect, as well as the size of the font cache (a 500K cache speeds the display yet further). There's also a doobrie called Big Picture. This slightly pointless feature sets the virtual desktop size to 1,024x768, but on a 640x480 display, which means that you have to scroll around the virtual desktop in the 'window' of the screen. Presumably this is so that you get the benefits of a higher res without the cramped display of a 14" screen. (By "virtual desktop" we mean that the Windows desktop size is bigger than your actual screen display, so it can't all be displayed at once, hence the scrolling fun.) Drivers are also provided for the usual programs such as *Microsoft Word* and *AutoCAD*, but not *3D Studio*.

The number of available resolutions depends on the amount of on-board memory on the card. With the standard 1Mb, you're limited to 16 million colours in 640x480, 65,536 in 800x600 and 256 in 1,024x768. With another megabyte you still have the full range of resolutions, plus true-colour 800x600, and 65,536-colour 1,024x768 modes, which is astounding, given the price.

Something you're not immediately made aware of, although it is hidden away in the manual, is that the Kelvin needs to use part of your PC's high memory for a buffer. If you're running a smart-ass memory manager such as *QEMM* that fiddles about with the memory map, it's probably using this region already. As a result strange things happen to the card. The driver utility reports that the highest resolution is apparently somewhere near 2,044x712 with a maximum number of colours set at "&@@*", and the Windows drivers won't work at all. Interesting, but not entirely helpful. The solution is to tell the memory manager to keep its dirty paws off that particular region. With this done, Kelv works perfectly happily.

The Diamond Viper VLB is still a faster card, but it costs around £350 and plays havoc with a wodge of popular software, whereas the Kelvin is remarkably cheap and happily coexists with everything we've thrown at it so far. So yet again we have no choice but to highly recommend an Orchid product. It's starting to look suspicious, but that's just the way it goes. Why don't you find out for yourself?

Looking elsewhere

This is the first local bus graphics card we've reviewed. Watch for the Diamond Stealth 64 VLB, which should be knocking on our door and politely asking to be reviewed, perhaps next month. Diamond claims it's the fastest graphics accelerator in the world. Yeah, right.

Local buses to catch

Diamond Viper VLB 2Mb
£363 Technomatic
☎ 081 205 9558
Genoa 8520 VLB 2Mb
£163 Upgrade Options
☎ 0252 316060

Highly unrecommended

Mach Speed VGA 1000
£99 Rombo, *PCF* 30, 46%

Kelvin 64/VLB

For

- Fast? Yes, it is, rather
- Built-in VESA support
- Fast in true-colour mode, too
- Cheap compared to similar cards

Against

- No ISA version available

***PCF* Rating 92%**

→

PENTIUM PC

£1,878 BTC Computers ☎ 0582 487878

IT'S A RIGHT SWIZZ, THIS PC lark. One minute your 66MHz local bus 486DX2, which cost a bomb, is the state of the art, the next it's an entry-level machine and the real power users are on to the Pentiums.

The undeniably Goliath-like BTC PC (hey, acronym heaven) comprises a 60MHz Pentium with a PCI motherboard, 16Mb of memory, a 340Mb hard drive, a Mitsumi FX001D CD-ROM drive and a Sound FX 16 card. For the bewildered, PCI is yet another form of motherboard design, gradually catching up with local bus in popularity. Its two advantages are speed – it's faster than local bus – and its limited capability to auto-configure peripherals. You plug your hard drive, graphics card, and whatever else, on to the board as normal, then the BIOS has a quick look at it, sorts out which IRQs, drive geometry and other necessary settings are needed, and duly sets it all up for you. Not all PCI expansion boards support this, but you can imagine how much simpler they are to use.

The BTC PC handled this auto-configging beautifully... when it finally decided to work. On first boot-up there was a "Drive not found" error. Opening the machine revealed that the hard drive wasn't actually plugged into the motherboard at all. Otherwise it was fairly tidy inside, except for the chip fan, which was loose. And there was no AC power source for the included speakers, and the LED speed display swore that the machine was running at 180MHz. Nothing catastrophic, but annoying nevertheless.

But let's talk speed, because that's what the Pentium is all about. The hard drive managed a frightening transfer rate of 1,223K/s (the norm is around 700-800K/s, depending on the drive). The Landmark speed test reckoned we had a 347MHz PC and then gave up trying to display the speed scale. In graphics tests, the Diamond Viper PCI card clocked up a Winmark rating of 116 in true-colour, 640x480 res. In comparison, the Kelvin 64/VLB (see the previous page), running at the same res in a 66MHz DX2, managed 74. Most other speed-testing utilities took one look, threw up their hands in defeat and went off to have a lie down in a dark room. It is, then, an incredibly fast PC in all departments, certainly faster than a local bus DX2.

Having said all that, speed isn't everything. In addition to the faults mentioned above, the Mitsumi drive (see page 43) is merely adequate, and the Sound FX 16 is only a Sound Blaster clone. If you're recklessly spending on a Pentium PC you expect top-quality components, such as an NEC drive and a Sound FX Classic 3000, for example. It would be great to wholeheartedly recommend the BTC PC, but it's just n quite everything you'd expect of top-class machine.



Imagine the fastest thing you can think of. Double its speed. The result is probably much faster than a Pentium PC, but hey, it's still a real scorcher.

Looking elsewhere

You might have read – possibly in *PCF* – that a 66MHz DX2 with a local bus cache controller effectively runs at the same speed as a Pentium machine. Well, it doesn't. Even with all possible extras bolted on to a DX2, the Pentium is still much faster. It's a wonderful thing, ladies and gentlemen. And this is the first one we've ever reviewed.

Pentium PC

For

■ If speed kills, then this is a deadly weapon...

Against

■ ...but it's missing a trigger

***PCF* Rating 78%**

Upgrading & Maintaining Your PC

By Ulrich Schueller and Hans-Georg Veddeler
£32.99 ■ Computer Manuals ☎ 021 706 6000
Published by Abacus. ISBN 1-55755-253-3

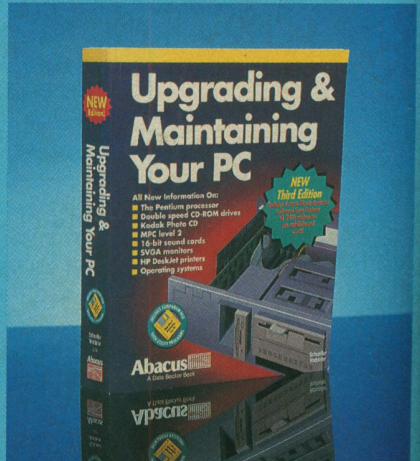
ANY OF YOU THAT VENTURE beyond the level of typing: `cd games` at the DOS prompt should have some sort of all-in-one reference book to hand for those annoying moments when your knowledge doesn't quite cover your ambition. After all, the more you learn about the PC in general, the easier adding bits and pieces becomes.

Of course, *PC FORMAT* is your primary source of top techie info, but *Upgrading & Maintaining Your PC* can help too. It's by no means the best of these books around, but it's certainly the most up-to-date, covering, among other things, the Pentium, MPC2 standards and *PhotoCD*. In magazine terms this isn't exactly state-of-the-art, but the world of book publishing moves much more slowly.

As usual the first section of the book deals with essential background material every PC user should know, exploring how the various parts of a system interact to form a whole, including operating systems and the pros/cons of different storage media. After that gentle introduction, section two dispenses with the niceties and thrusts all the gory details of installation procedures upon you. Step-by-step instructions guide you through the sometimes tricky process of fitting or upgrading a disk drive, CD-ROM drive, motherboard and expansion card (every flavour catered for).

The ultra-ambitious among you, who manage to wade through this lot, can then tackle the Build Your Own MPC section, then sit back with a satisfied sigh and worry about the dangers listed in Preventative Maintenance. The appendices carry the usual essential listings of hard drive tables, pin connections, glossaries, and important phrases to bandy about when talking to another PC owner.

The book's strength is in its style. It's neither massively technical and dry, nor hopelessly lightweight and chatty. Everything is looked at from a practical point of view – the authors know that rehashing idealistic installation manuals doesn't fool anyone – so the text concentrates on the problems you're likely to face in the real world and recommends sensible solutions. Photos are plentiful and unambiguous, though a few of the captions are less than helpful. A shot of mounting rails is accompanied by "Mounting rails – they're all different," and a picture of a MPC is graced with, "The multimedia PC consists of many parts." Frighteningly incisive stuff. (And we take great exception to "Installing a hard drive in a PC isn't as easy as it might sound in a magazine article." Yes it flaming well is.) With the bonus of the *System Sleuth Analyser* diagnostic software on the bundled disk, *Upgrading & Maintaining Your PC* is a good value reference guide which shouldn't go out of date for at least, ooh, two months. Of course, it'll never replace Resolutions, but then, what possibly could?



The name of Hans-Georg Veddeler will live for generations thanks to this book. Maybe.

REELMAGIC CD-ROM UPGRADE KIT

£645 GEM Distribution ☎ 0279 442842

THE REELMAGIC BOARD (*PCF* 29, 86%) is undoubtedly a marvellous piece of hardware, but of course it's not much good without a CD-ROM drive. Should you currently be ROM-less and Magic-less, this upgrade kit is a perfect way to get both and ensure compatibility. While the ReelMagic has the capability to play CD-i films, not all drives do. The Sony CDU33A included with the kit is one of the few that does.

The drive (reviewed in our cover feature on page 43), however, isn't the most desirable model around. It's double-speed and multi-session, and therefore MPC2 compatible, but the build quality is definitely below average. You only have to witness the awful violent eject mechanism for evidence of this. Add that to the overall flimsiness and its propensity to skip at the slightest nudge, and you have the singularly unimpressive Sony CDU33A.

Never mind. It works, just about. Installation is a snip, owing mainly to the excellent manual and all the necessary materials being supplied. The drive plugs straight into the ReelMagic's interface, so in most cases there's no need to get involved with jumper settings. Praise be to Allah that the installation software has been improved, too. It no longer crashes every five minutes, and it intelligently works out which IRQs are free (though it couldn't figure out that we had a Sony drive on board without being told).

There were a couple of glaring anomalies with the kit we received. (But we gave them some food and water and they were soon happy enough, whereupon we let them go into the wild.) It ships with version 1.03 of the driver software, and the flyer included with it sings its praises: "better install procedure" and "more robust operation". Fair enough, but what you're not told is that to play CD-i digital films, you require version 1.10 of the software, which is only included with the ReelMagic Lite board. Doh.



A few niggling annoyances mar the otherwise perfect splendour of the ReelMagic. Note in particular the luscious styling of the board itself. (Hmm.)

The speakers are another annoyance. Although you're supplied with an AC power adaptor, the plug is an American two-prong type for which you need an additional English convertor (not to mention additional cost and inconvenience). While you're getting the convertor you may as well buy a decent pair of speakers too, because the specimens in the kit (Sigma Designs' very own) are cheap 'n' tacky through and through, despite a reasonable output of four watts. You'll also find their connection jack doesn't fit the board snugly. These oversights should be fixed when the new version of the kit becomes available.

At the moment the software bundled with the kit comprises a limited system-testing utility called *MPC Wizard*, a sampling of video clips on art, nature, space and so on called *WorldView*, and *VideoCube*, a tedious puzzle affair which you could easily mistake as the world's dullest game, until you happen upon *Dragon's Lair*, which is also included. Oh, and sending off a coupon entitles you to a free copy of *Return to Zork*, should Activision ever decide to finish it. *Zork* will be part of the new software bundle, shipping with the kit soon. You'll also get *The Horde*, a so-called comedy medieval adventure, *Compton's Multimedia Encyclopedia*, and *Top Gun* as a CD-i digital film. So check which version is on offer before ordering.

The kit is by no means great. It has too many unnecessary foibles and omissions for it to be accorded that status. It's also noticeably pricey, when you consider that a ReelMagic costs £399, the Sony drive goes for £150, and the included speakers can't cost more than £25. (The software, frankly, isn't worth much more than a tenner. At least, the current batch certainly isn't.) That's not to say it's especially bad, either. After all, it does the job, in its own unremarkable way.

Looking elsewhere

If you're looking for a multimedia upgrade kit, there are millions out there (a few are listed below). If, however, you're looking for a ReelMagic upgrade kit, then your search must end here.

Kits 'n' a half

SoundWare 4000 Pro Kit
£469 Abacus ☎ 0342 303333
Sound Sense
£238 Beatmark, *PCF* 26, 73%

Pricey 'n' peculiar

Memphis
£704 Media Vision/SMI
PCF 32, 66%

Just pricey

Sony Desktop Library
£934 Sony, *PCF* 23, 39%

ReelMagic CD-ROM Upgrade Kit

For

- Detailed manual
- Complete ReelMagic capability

Against

- Disappointing CD-ROM drive
- Software is unexciting
- No speaker power source

PCF Rating 72%

INSIDE 3D STUDIO

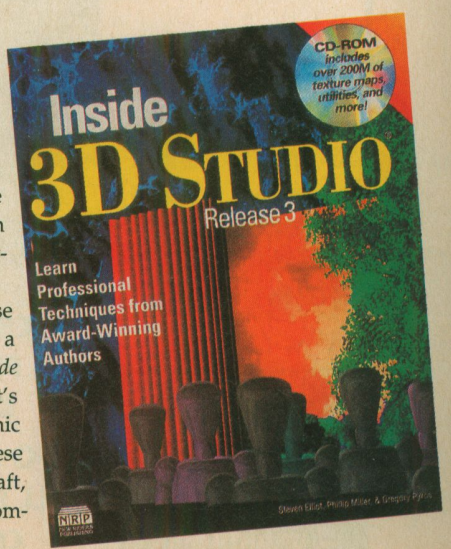
By Steven Elliot ■ New Riders Publishing
£46.95 ■ Computer Bookshops ☎ 021 706 6000
ISBN 1-56205-075-3

Top program, top book. Hearty slaps on backs all round are in order.

3D STUDIO IS A WONDERFUL program which, even if you can't afford it, you might get to use on a college design course or the like. If you already have you should know that although the manuals are helpful, they don't get into practical use. *Inside 3D Studio*, however, assumes you're already familiar with the way *3DS* works, but that you perhaps haven't got too far with rendering realistic scenes. Each chapter concentrates on an aspect of the program, and emphasises points that the manuals might cover too briefly.

Starting off with general background info, the book gradually introduces more advanced topics such as modelling techniques, scene arrangement, lighting hints and tips, the blending of subtle materials, animation tricks and just about everything else. All the exercises are contained on the accompanying CD, along with around 200Mb of clearly-scanned texture maps.

Most of the time these 'how to' books end up being a rehash of the manual, but *Inside 3D Studio* is far from it. It's written by professional graphic designers who have learnt these techniques through hard graft, and it shows. Hugely recommended and very useful. PCF



OSPREY COMPUTERS

7 DAYS A WEEK **TEL: 0792 850034** 7 DAYS A WEEK

ORDERS TAKEN FROM 10 am-8pm

UNIT 3, CROFTY IND. EST.,
PENCLAWDD, SWANSEA
SOUTH WALES SA4 3RS

ALL PRICES ARE INCLUSIVE

ALL GOODS SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY
DETAILS CORRECT AT TIME OF GOING TO PRESS

TOP 10 CDs

Megarace	£35
Rebel Assault	£39
TFX	£39
Microcosm	£44
Star Trek 25th Anniv	£44
Day of the Tentacle	£39
7th Guest & Dune	£44
Encarta 94	£89
Eco Quest	£25
Lawnmower Man	£44

SHAREWARE TOP 10 CDs

1. Educational co-op	£19
2. Hot Sound & Vision	£19
3. Night Owl 11	£37
4. World of Windows	£19
5. Software Vault Gold	£28
6. Our Solar System	£19
7. Shareware Overload Trio	£28
8. CICA Microsoft Windows	£19
9. Publishers Paradise V2	£35
10. Winbox	£24

CD ROM DRIVES

Mitsumi LU005S £125
Mitsumi FX001D £179
Panasonic CR562B £164
Panasonic CR562B External £219
Sony CDU 33A01 £164

Multi-Media Pack 1

Panasonic CR562B+
Creative Labs Sound BlasterV2
Plus 2 Free CDs

FOR £233 inc

Multi-Media Pack 2

Panasonic CR562B+
Creative Labs Sound Blaster V2
American Jukebox, Encore CD,
Anecdote CD + Sneak Peaks CD

ALL FOR £255 inc

Multi-Media Pack 3

Panasonic CR562B+
Creative Labs Sound Blaster 16 MCD+ Compton Encyclopedia (RRP £299), Challenge Pack CD including, F-29, Robocop 3, Pushover, Epic + 5 more titles

ALL FOR £379 inc

SOUND CARDS

Soundblaster V2 Deluxe £63

Soundblaster Pro Basic £80

Soundblaster 16 Basic £130

Soundblaster 16 MCD £140

Soundblaster 16 ASP MCD £191*

SOUNDBLASTER 16 AWE 32 £275

COMBINES SB 16 MCD WITH WAVEBLASTER TO PROVIDE TRUE MIDI SOUNDS.

ALL MCD CARDS HAVE TRIPLE CD INTERFACE, PANASONIC, MITSUMI & SONI

REEL MAGIC LITE MULTIMEDIA PLAYBACK CONTROLLER.

Full Screen MPEG Playback in 32,768 colours at 1024 x 768. Supports MPEG audio/video, video CD, and Karaoke CD. Connects to any Sound Card. Complete with Return to Zork (FMV) and demo CD, also plays CDi video CDs

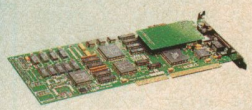
£250 inc VIDEO CDs AVAILABLE, PLEASE CALL

486 SX/DX VESA**

VESA L/B 256K Cache (3 VESA slots)
2 Meg Memory
Cherry Keyboard
VESA L/B i/o card (1p, 2s, 1g)
1Mb VLB SVGA Graphic card
3·5" HD Floppy drive
MS Mouse (Opto-mechanical)
14" SVGA Monitor
Mini Tower or Desktop case

£549 inc

*Add CPU and Hard Drive of your choice from the list below



Roland

SOUND CANVAS

SCC-1 internal £349 inc
SC-7 external £249 inc
RAP-10 internal £339 inc

PC200 49 key GM/GS VELOCITY SENSITIVE KEYBOARD £169 inc

15WATT MONITOR AMP £99 inc

COMPUTER AUDIO MONITOR £79 inc

JOYSTICKS & FLIGHT YOKES

CH Flightstick Pro £69
CH Flightstick £37
CH Axys ***NEW*** £20
CH Virtual Pilot £84
Suncom FX2000 £24
Suncom Flight Yoke £57

Thrustmaster MK1 £69
Thrustmaster MK2 FCS £99
Thrustmaster Rudders £CALL
Thrustmaster Steering Unit £CALL

Flightmax with Throttle/Rudder Controls***NEW*** £CALL

FAX/MODEMS

Internal Fax/Modem 2400/9600 V32 £89 inc

Internal Fax/Modem 14,400/14,400 V32bis £145 inc

External Fax/Modem 14,400/14,400 V32bis £159 inc

VIDEO CAPTURE CARDS

Orchid Vidiola Video Capture, Edit and Playback Card. Creat your own .AVI Films with full sound support
Winner of the PCF Gold Award, 90%



£375 inc

DOOM!

HERE'S A CHANCE FOR ALL YOU SHAREWARE USERS TO UPGRADE TO THE FULL VERSION 1·2 OF id'S BLOODFEST EXTRAVAGANZA!!!
SPECIAL OFFER PRICE OF **£28 inc**

CPUs

486 SX 25Mhz £63
486 DX 33Mhz £236
486 DX 50Mmz £385
486 DX2-66Mhz £400

HARD DRIVES (3·5" IDE)

130 Mb	£155
210Mb	£185
340Mb	£233
420Mb	£255
540Mb	£455

Speakers

Quickshot SM-4	£24
Zi-Fi Standard	£34
Zi-Fi Pro	£55

MONITORS

SVGA 14" 1024 x 768 0·31 £185 inc
SVGA 14" 1024 X 768 0·28 £199 inc

Each system is built to a very high standard and comes with a 2 yr warranty

PLEASE CALL FOR A FREE INFO PACK ON ALL ROLAND CARDS

MANGA VIDEOS

AKIRA	£12
AKIRA DOUBLE PACK	£19
BLACK MAGIC M.66	£9
DOMINION 1 & 2	£12
DOMINION 3 & 4	£12
FIRE TRIPPER	£9
FIST OF NORTHSTAR	£12
GIGOLO	£12
GOLGO 13	£12
JUDGE	£9
LAUGHING TARGET	£9
DEMON WOMB	£12
OVER FIEND	£12
ODIN	£12
RETURN OF OVER FIEND 1	£9
RETURN OF OVER FIEND 2	£9
RG VEDA	£11
TETSUO	£11
TETSUO 2	£11
TETSUO DOUBLE PACK	£11
ULTIMATE TEACHER	£9
VAMPIRE HUNTER	£11
VENUS WARS	£11
WICKED CITY	£11
BATTLE ANGEL ALITA	£11

OTHER MANGA TITLES AVAILABLE, CALL FOR DETAILS

Feed your brain

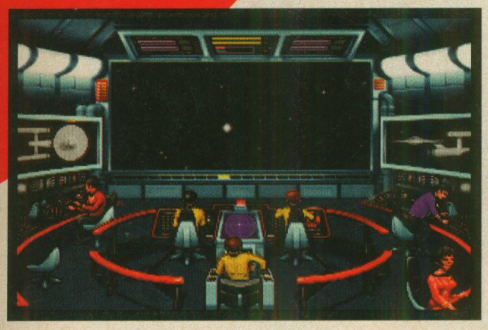


This a CD-ROM disc, just like the one you'll find on the cover of every issue of *CD-ROM Today*.

It's packed to the brim with an amazing 650 Megabytes of data, the equivalent of over four hundred floppy disks. Just imagine if we'd decided to attach four hundred disks to the cover of the magazine!

The disc is dual format for PC and Macintosh, so if you have either machine you'll find it's got lots of interesting goodies for you to simply mess about with. And it's really easy to use.

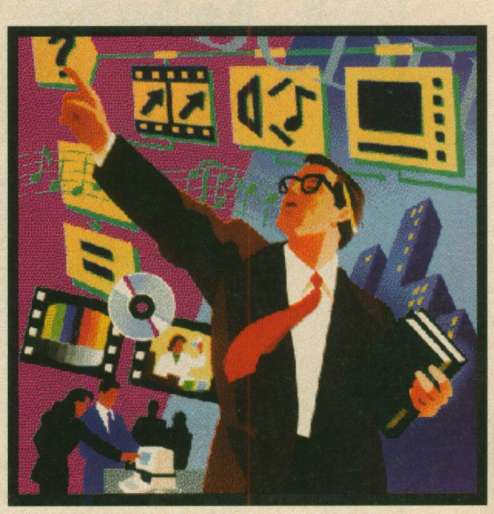
Here's just three examples of what you'll find on our first amazing disc...



Great game demos - Mac owners will be absorbed by the astonishing Myst from Electronic Arts, while PC people will be engrossed in the new Star Trek, featuring dialogue from the Trek actors!



Videos - Famous Faces from Jasmin Multimedia would normally cost £70 for 100 royalty-free QuickTime or Video for Windows video clips, but we're giving you 20 of them entirely for free! Oh, plus we're including run-time versions of both Apple's QuickTime and Microsoft's Video for Windows for you to use. And if you can recognise the famous faces, you could win a video camcorder!



Multimedia do-it-yourself - Authorware from Macromind would normally cost a mind-bending £4,000, but we're giving you a special version which is fully functional up to a 50-operation limit. We'll also give you all the materials and all the know-how you need to try your hand at creating you own multimedia presentations. You'll be surprised how easy it is, and you could find it very useful.

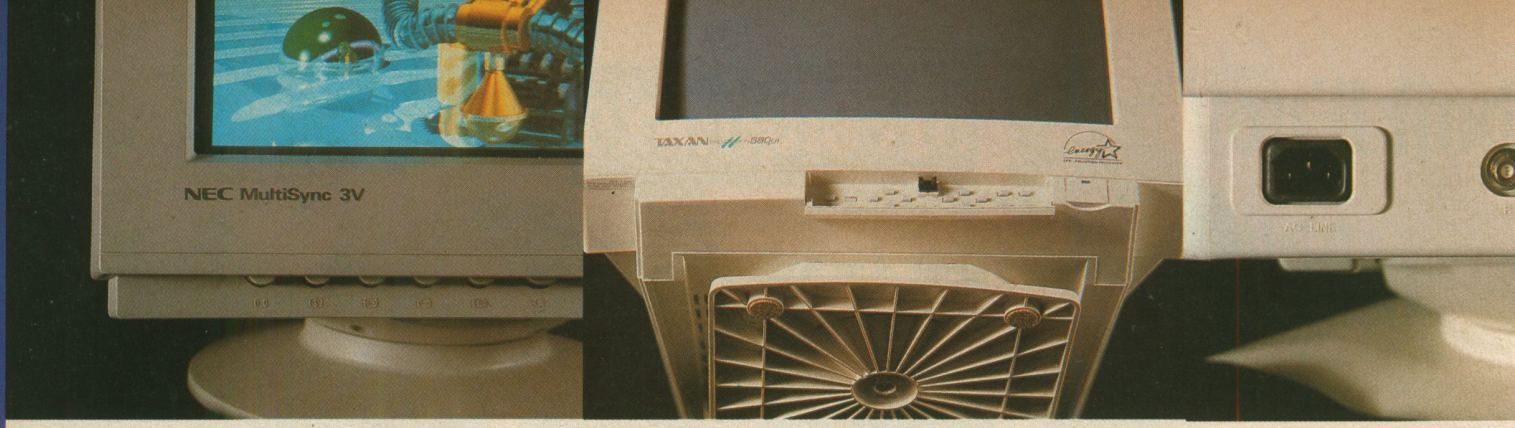


There's a lot more on the disc too, including our unique interactive reviews - but we'll leave you to discover all that when you buy the magazine!



And this is our magazine. We'd like to help you explore the amazing new world of CD-ROM for the Mac and PC.

You'll find it in the shops from Thursday March 31st – the day before Easter weekend. So we'll see you then!



SIGHT FOR SORE EYES

Don't waste money on eye baths, Optrex and slices of cucumber, splash out on a decent monitor. Paul Pettengale explores how one of the most overlooked PC upgrades can save your eyes.

You want a better PC, right? You want to say to your mates, "My PC can run *Pagan* so fast that the Avatar doesn't jerk when he runs." The go-faster ethic is rife throughout the PC world, but it could be damaging your health. Getting worked up about speed could lead you to make the wrong upgrade decisions.

Think about it. How do you interface with your PC? What provides you with a glimpse of what your PC can do? Your monitor. You spend hours staring at it, not your PC itself, and it's your monitor that can be dangerous. A bad monitor is bad for your eyes. Fuzzy resolution and horizontal banding can result in eye strain, and high radioactive emissions can be damaging in more serious ways. No one yet knows what the long term effects of staring at a monitor screen all day are, but one fact remains – if you upgrade your monitor to a large-screen, high-definition, low-emission model, your eyes are going to be grateful.

The benefits of a good monitor go beyond the health aspect. A large monitor with a rock-solid image makes Windows a joy to use. You can actually use Windows in a high resolution, say 1,024x768 pixels, which enables you to have numerous windows open at the same time. Imagine seeing your *Word* document, your calendar and your cardfile all at once – something that's impossible in the standard 640x480 mode that's practical on a 14-inch screen. Games benefit from a larger screen too. They're more involving, and great graphics come to life on a 15 or 17-inch monitor.

There are many reasons for buying a new monitor, but choosing which monitor to go for isn't anywhere near as easy. If you're considering an upgrade from the monitor that comes with your PC, it's only really worth considering a 15 or 17-inch model. You've probably got a 14-inch monitor already, and the cost benefits of buying another don't compare with spending that little bit extra for a 15-inch monitor.

Look at my 17 inches

The difference between a 15-inch and a 17-inch monitor, apart from size, is usually the quality of the tube (the actual screen). 17-inch monitors tend to have flat, square tubes, which cut down glare and reduce eye strain. They also invariably have a better dot pitch too. Dot pitch is the size, in millimetres, of each pixel dot on the screen. A decent 17-inch monitor has a dot pitch of 0.24mm, whereas a 15-inch monitor is more likely to have a pitch of 0.26mm. Go for the lowest dot pitch size within your budget when choosing a monitor.

The down-side of a 17-inch monitor is cost. A good 17-inch monitor can cost as much as £1,000, whereas a top-notch 15-inch model is nearer £500. Having said that, there are excellent 17-inch monitors (the Idek 17-inch model for example) that cost far less – as little as £600 from a mail order supplier.

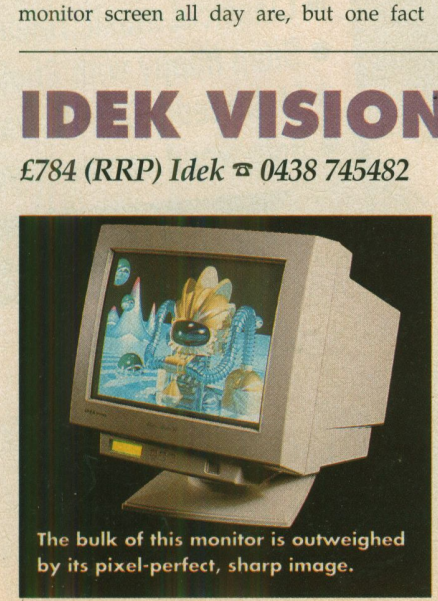
Make the right choice and, whether you go for a 15 or a 17-inch model, you should find that your PC becomes more of a joy to use. No longer should you find that a six-hour session at your screen results in headaches, and you're sure to decide that £350 on a monitor is a far better spend than boosting your RAM from 8Mb to 16Mb.

TELL ME NO LIES

There's no colour like Truecolour, which all of the monitors reviewed here can display. Truecolour modes are those where as many as 16 million colours are displayed all at once. That's a lot of colours, especially considering that the trained eye can only discern around 12 million.

IDEK VISION MASTER 17

£784 (RRP) Idek ☎ 0438 745482



The bulk of this monitor is outweighed by its pixel-perfect, sharp image.

PCF Recommended

UNDOUBTEDLY THE BEST of the bunch, the Idek Vision Master 17 provides a sharp image at all resolutions, without losing definition at any point. We initially experienced some centring problems, especially in the higher resolutions and under Windows, but this turned out to be no fault of the monitor, but rather of the Diamond Viper VLB graphics card with which it was tested. The Viper had to be set up especially for the monitor, and all of the refresh rates, at each resolution, had to be configured.

The colour depth provided by the Idek, especially when used in Truecolour mode, is superb. Given that this monitor is so cheap for a 17-inch model, the colour vibrancy is a joy to behold. The clarity of the image is also commendable. When using the monitor for high res *3D Studio* design work, the sharpness of the picture helps immensely in differentiating mesh lines.

This monitor carries all the trappings of an expensive model. The controls are all digital, enabling you to alter screen size and colour ratios from a digital display on the front. Top class.

Idek Vision Master 17

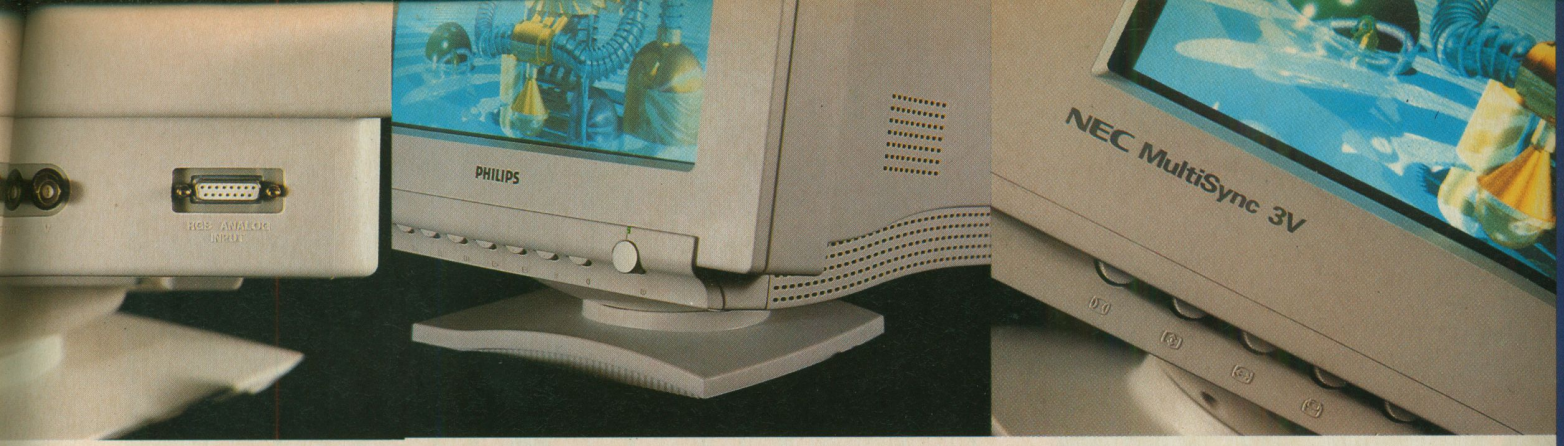
For

- High picture quality and colour depth
- High build quality

Against

- Occasional centring failures

PCF Rating 89%



TAXAN ERGO VISION 580LR

£403 Simply Computers ☎ 081 523 4020 (£527 RRP)



Additional features and a clear display makes this the best of the 15-inchers.

PCF Recommended

FOR THE ULTIMATE IN 15-INCH quality, the Taxan Ergo comes out tops. The image quality, for a monitor of this size, is outstanding, nearly on a par with the 17-inch Vision Master from Idek. It comes with a number of additional features that make it worth the asking price.

For example, you can program the monitor with up to 10 memory settings for various resolutions, so that you never have to adjust the picture width, centring or other settings when changing between different modes.

The design of the Taxan is clean and functional, with all of the control buttons hidden away behind a flap. Image quality at all resolutions up to 1,024x768 is superb, with no fuzziness or misconvergence, and strong, vibrant colours don't look darkened or washed out. The Taxan is the best of the 15-inch monitors on test here, and for the price it's well worth taking seriously.

Taxan Ergo 580LR

For

- Lots of features and a clear, sharp image
- Fairly low price

Against

- Maximum resolution of 1,024x768, but you don't really need any higher

PCF Rating 88%

PHILIPS 1520 NI SVGA

£409 Simply Computers ☎ 081 523 4020 (£504 RRP)



It may have built-in speakers, but the extreme high-res image is a bit fuzzy.

PCF Recommended

THIS MONITOR IS ONE OF A kind. Unlike any of the other monitors on test, the Philips 1520 15-inch model has built-in speakers, so you can connect your soundcard directly to your monitor for the complete audio-visual experience, such that it is. The speakers don't sound too bad, although they're not as high quality as a stand-alone pair of independently powered ones.

The build quality and digital controls on the Philips model add to its attraction, as does its picture quality, which resides somewhere in between that of the extremely clear Taxan 15-inch model and the not-so-sharp Compaq monitor. At 1,024x768 in Windows the Philips is usable, but is far more of a struggle to read than the Taxan screen. Dropping the resolution down to 800x600 makes the monitor much easier on the eyes.

The Philips is slightly more expensive than the Taxan, and the Taxan does present itself as a better monitor all round. But if you're after a monitor with built-in speakers, the Philips is your only choice, and you're sure to be pleased with it should you part with your cash.

Philips 1520 NI SVGA

For

- Built-in speakers
- High build quality

Against

- 1,024x768 res isn't so clear

PCF Rating 80%

COMPAQ 151FS

£464 (RRP) Compaq ☎ 081 332 3000



The Compaq is cheap, but there's nothing outstanding about it.

FIFTEEN INCHES SHOULD BE MORE THAN enough as they say, and in this case, whoever 'they' are, they'd be right. The Compaq 151FS monitor is a no-frills 15-inch model with little in the way of added features. It's simple in design, it's not particularly outstanding in terms of picture quality, but it's relatively cheap and should be ideal for anyone who wants a simple upgrade.

Setting the monitor up for business, as with all of the models that we tested, is simple. After configuring it to work with the Diamond Viper VLB video card (with which all of the monitors were tested for consistency) Windows runs in 1,024x768 mode with no problems. It also runs fine at the more practical 800x600 resolution. Picture quality isn't as sharp as the other monitors on test, but is adequate, and certainly better than all but the very best 14-inch models.

If budget is a constraint, the Compaq is an ideal choice. There's no doubt that the other monitors in the round-up are better, but not significantly so in the case of the other 15-inch models, and you'd be foolish to expect anything else for the asking price. A sound choice for the penny-wise.

Compaq 151FS

For

- Relatively low price

Against

- Nothing outstanding

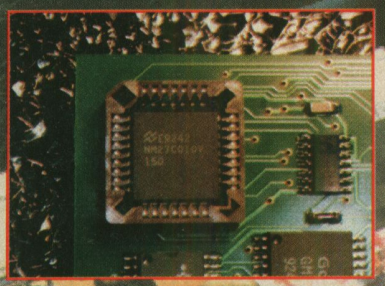
PCF Rating 75%

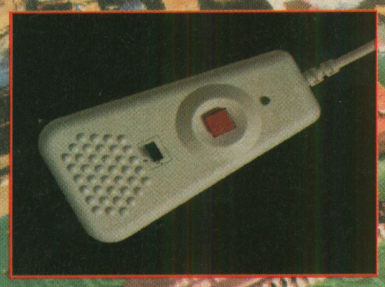
→

IT'S BETTER THAN GLASSES

You are sure to come across monitors described as MPR II compliant when you're looking for your ideal screen. This means that the amount of radiation given out by the monitor falls below that of the Swedish MPR II legal limit – and it's therefore far better for your eyes, and for your unborn sprog, should you be 'with child'.

ACTION REPLAY™ ...THE POWER TO BUST YOUR PROGRAMS WIDE OPEN!







£69.99
INC VAT & DEL.

NOW WITH IMPROVED VERSION 2.0 OPERATING SYSTEM

System requirements
386/486 DOS 3.2 and above

SCREEN GRABBER
At the press of the **Action Replay** freezer button you can grab a VGA screen from any program and save it out as a standard PCX file suitable for your graphics package. Now works with many non standard VGA modes.

SLO MO FUNCTION
Allows you to play a game at your own pace. Select from about 10% to full speed.

MONITOR FEATURE
Display the entire contents of memory in its frozen state. View as HEX or disassembly, includes a memory search facility which now works with all DOS memory. Output to printer available.

INFINITE CHEAT GENERATOR
Action Replay now has FOUR powerful CHEAT FINDER modes that actually scan through the game in its FROZEN STATE and finds the locations that control lives, ammo, objects etc. etc. The unique CHEAT GENERATOR then gives you a cheatcode for that game. Simply press a key to restart the game and you are invincible!! Cheats can be saved to disk or entered again at a later date. Loads of ready made cheats are also supplied on disk.

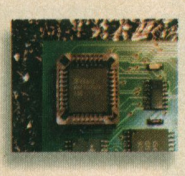
PROGRAM SAVE
Freeze your program at any point and save entire contents of memory, including extended memory, to floppy or hardrive. When you reload the program it will resume at the point it was frozen. Ideal for saving a game at a difficult point or for programs with tedious 'password' loading systems.

FREEZER DOS COMMANDS
Directory, format and save commands are available even when the program is frozen.

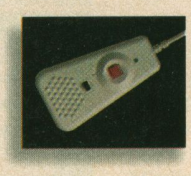
VIRUS CHECKER
Powerful virus scanner searches for viruses and alerts the user if detected. Now recognises even more viruses.

HACKER FUNCTIONS
Interrupt monitor displays contents of interrupt vectors and can monitor the activity of a particular interrupt. Register command shows where the program was when it was frozen. Graphics register command displays the contents of the VGA register set. The hackers dream!

POWERFUL HARDWARE
Action Replay is a powerful plug-in card with both advanced program freezer circuitry and over 1MB of its own on board Ram so it uses less than 2K of the PCs own memory! Now uses 386 instruction set for extra power!



The ACTION REPLAY is easily upgradable. Unique plug in Operating System ROM allows for easy upgrades as the software develops.



Custom hand held control - Freezer button & Slo-Mo enable controls are available at all times.

WHAT THE MAGS SAY



"PC Action Replay is a sophisticated, multi-talented piece of equipment with more options than you can throw a stick at.....beautifully simple to use."
PC POWER JAN '94

"The PC version is the best yet, combining powerful code crunching with lethal game busting"
VIDEO GAME SHOPPER JAN '94

HOW TO ORDER
PHONE
0782 744707
24 HOUR MAIL ORDER HOTLINE
FAX: 0782 744292

Send Cheques, Postal Orders or credit card details to:- DATEL ELECTRONICS

DATEL ELECTRONICS LTD.
GOVAN ROAD,
FENTON INDUSTRIAL ESTATE,
FENTON, STOKE-ON-TRENT,
ST4 2RS, ENGLAND.

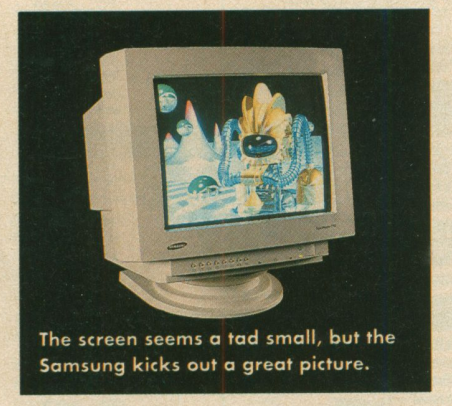
OR CALL AT OUR LONDON SHOP:- 222 TOTTENHAM COURT RD, LONDON W1 TEL: 071 580 6460

Existing Action Replay owners can upgrade to version 2 for £15. No need to send back your old system.



SAMSUNG SYNCMASTER 17GL

£821 (RRP) Samsung ☎ 081 391 8218



The screen seems a tad small, but the Samsung kicks out a great picture.

THE FIRST THING THAT STRIKES YOU ABOUT the Samsung is that even though the tube is 17 inches across, diagonally, there must be a fair chunk of it hidden away under the plastic casing, leaving just 15.5 inches visible. This is common with many monitors – English law states that the tube size is what counts rather than how much is showing – but it seems to be particularly evident as far as the SyncMaster is concerned.

The image on this monitor is sharp, focused and easy on the eye. Under Windows it's happy in resolutions up to 1,240x1,024, which is the max for this model. The auto-centring is up to scratch, and on this point it's even better than the Vision Master. The higher price and the slightly smaller screen detract from the overall quality, which is why the Vision Master still comes out on top. While the Samsung is solidly built and has a full compliment of digital controls, it's not as great value for money as the Idek model.

Samsung SyncMaster 17GL

For

- High picture quality
- High build quality

Against

- Small screen size for a 17-inch monitor

PCF Rating 72%

NEC 3V

£586 (RRP) NEC ☎ 0345 300103



The NEC is overpriced for a 15-inch monitor with analogue controls.

WHEREAS MOST OF THE MONITORS IN THIS group utilise a set of digital controls to adjust picture size, centring, colour, brightness and contrast, the NEC 3V sticks to the more traditional analogue controls, which is a shame. Although the auto-centring capabilities of the monitor as it switches between resolutions are accurate, the controls are unwieldy compared with digital controls found on the other models.

However, the quality of the image on the 3V is high. Not as high as the 17-inch Vision Master 17 from Idek, certainly, but far higher than the Compaq 15-inch monitor. The monitor gives a particularly good Windows screen at 800x600 resolution, presenting a sharp, clear image with no fuzziness between strong colours. At 1,024x768 the image isn't quite as good, even when driven by the excellent Diamond Viper VLB video card, which is more than capable of dishing out high-quality graphics at this high a resolution. The NEC is an attractive monitor, ideal for those of you who are as concerned about how attractive your PC looks as well as how effectively it performs, and the screen is extremely flat for a 15-inch monitor.

At this price you would certainly expect digital controls, but the NEC 3V is a good monitor nonetheless. It's just slightly overpriced. PCF

NEC 3V

For

- Sharp image for Windows use
- Great looking design

Against

- Somewhat overpriced
- No digital controls

PCF Rating 65%

WHAT'S IN A PIXEL?

Every child knows that a pixel is a mutant pixie, devoid of limbs. Adults, however, consider them to be ion-sensitive areas on the face of an ion tube, which, when bombarded by electrical pulses light up in varying degrees of red, green, blue and black colour segments. Aren't grown-ups stupid?

TAKING A CLOSER LOOK

Check out the stats and find out how the monitors compare...

MAKE	SIZE	DOT PITCH	MAXIMUM RESOLUTION	CONTROLS	COLOUR CLARITY	BUILD QUALITY	DOCUMENTATION	MRP II COMPLIANT	PRICE (RRP)
Idek Vision Master 17	17-inch	0.28mm	1,240x1,024	Digital	High	High	Good	Yes	£784
Taxan Ergo 580LR	15-inch	0.28mm	1,024x768	Digital	High	High	Good	Yes	£527
Philips 1520 NI SVGA	15-inch	0.28mm	1,024x768	Digital	High	High	Average	Yes	£504
Compaq 151FS	15-inch	0.28mm	1,024x768	Digital	Medium	Medium	Average	Yes	£464
Samsung SyncMaster 17GL	17-inch	0.28mm	1,240x1,024	Digital	High	High	Average	Yes	£821
NEC 3V	15-inch	0.28mm	1,024x768	Analog	Medium	Medium	Good	Yes	£586

CD DIRECT

ARRIVING DAILY. CALL FREEPHONE FOR LATEST

THE CD ROM SPECIALISTS

APPLICATONS & UTILITIES

CD-ROM Toolkit (FWB)	Mac		£49·00

GAMES

Myst Strategy Book	Mac	PC	£13·95
Sim City 2000: The Ultimate	Mac	PC	£12·99

ACCESORIES

Blank CD Recordable Discs	Mac	PC	£14·00
CD ROM Caddies	Mac	PC	£4·95

ANIMALS & BIOLOGY

A world Alive (Documentary)	Mac		£29·00
About Cows	Mac	PC	£18·00
Anatomist CD (Human Anatomy)	Mac		£185·00
Animals in Motion (Photos)		PC	£12·00
Animals of the San Diego Zoo	Mac	PC	£27·00
Audubons Birds		PC	£29·00
Cats (Pics animation & sound)	Mac		£29·00
Creepy Crawlies	Mac	PC	£34·00
Cute 'n' Cuddlies	Mac	PC	£29·00
Dinosaurs (comprehensive guide)	Mac	PC	£39·00
Endangered and Threatened		PC	£24·00
Four Footed Friends	Mac		£29·00
LIFEmap - ANIMALS	**Mac**		£27·00
LIFEmap - ANIMALS W BACKBONES	**Mac**		£27·00
LIFEmap - ORGANIC DIVERSITY	**Mac**		£27·00
Microsoft Dinosuars	Mac	PC	£35·00
The Zoo	Mac	PC	£29·00
Whales & Dolphins		PC	£39·00
Zoo Guides - Mammals of Africa	Mac		£39·00
Zoo Guides - Whales and Dolphins	Mac		£39·00

APPLICATIONS & UTILITIES

1001 Utilities (Speed Utilities)		PC	£18·00
Colour it! (32 bit image editing)	Mac		£79·00
Faces + (Antialiasing prog)	Mac		£89·00
Fantasia Fonts (200 + T/Type fonts)		PC	£29·00
Font Master		PC	£19·00
Mac Handbook	Mac		£35·00
Macademic CD	Mac		£68·00
MPC Wizard (tune up CD ROM)		PC	£10·00
Pixar Typestry and Agfa fonts	Mac		£149·00
Publish it! Easy 2·1	Mac		£29·00
Publish it! Easy 3·0	Mac		£99·00
RoMaterial (icons & screensavers)		PC	£15·00
Window Master (200+ progs)		PC	£22·00

BUSINESS & TRAINING

Home Office Executive		PC	£13·00

CHILDREN

20,000 Leagues Under the Sea	Mac	PC	£36·00
A Long Hard Day on the Ranch	Mac	PC	£19·00
Adventures of Pinocchio	Mac	PC	£29·00
Aesop's Fables: Discis	Mac	PC	£18·00
Aesopolis (Aesop's fables)	Mac		£49·00
Alice in Wonderland	Mac		£35·00
Amanda Stories Complete	Mac		£35·00
Animal Alphabet	Mac		£29·00
Animal Alphabet		PC	£29·00
Arthur's Teacher Trouble	Mac	PC	£25·80
Beauty and the Beast	Mac	PC	£18·00
Book of Shadowboxes	Mac		£34·00
CD FunHouse: Wayzata	Mac	PC	£19·00
Cinderalla: Discus	Mac	PC	£19·00
Cosmic Osmo (adventure game)	Mac		£35·00
CountDown: Voyager	Mac		£22·00
Cyberplasm Formula	Mac	PC	£29·00
Ecoquest: The Search for Cetus		PC	£29·00
Eric the Unready	Mac	PC	£22·60
Fatty Bear's Birthday Surprise		PC	£29·00
Heather's Home Run: Discus	Mac	PC	£19·00
Hound of the Baskervilles		PC	£29·00
Hypnotic Harp	Mac	PC	£29·00
It's a Birds Life	Mac		£29·00
Joanne's Stories (English/French)	Mac		£59·00
Just Grandma & Me	Mac	PC	£24·80
Kings Arthur's Magic Castle	Mac	PC	£35·00
Last Dinosaur's Egg	Mac	PC	£29·00
Manhole	Mac	PC	£23·00
Max the Dragon: Dandy Dinosaurs	Mac	PC	£53·00
Moving Gives a Stomach Ache	Mac	PC	£19·00
Mud Puddle: Discus	Mac	PC	£19·00
My Favourite Monster	Mac		£37·50
New Kid on theBlock	Mac		£24·80
Night Befor Christmas: Discus	Mac		£19·00
Paper Bag Princess: Discus	Mac	PC	£16·00
Peter Pan: A Story Painting	Mac	PC	£39·00
Putt-Putt Goes to the Moon	Mac	PC	£29·00
Putt-Putt Joins the Parade	Mac	PC	£29·80
Putt-Putts Fun Pack	Mac	PC	£24·30
Richard Scarry's Best	Mac	PC	£29·00
Richard Scarry's Busiest	Mac	PC	£29·00
Rodney's Wonder Window	Mac		£29·00
Scary Poems for Rotten Kids	Mac	PC	£25·00
Selfish Giant	Mac	PC	£29·00
Silly Noisy House: Voyager	Mac	PC	£39·00
Sleeping Beauty (classic tale)		PC	£23·00
Swiss Family Robinson	Mac		£44·00
Tale of Benjamin Bunny: Discus	Mac	PC	£19·00
Tale of Peter Rabbit: Discus	Mac	PC	£19·00
Talking Classic Tales	Mac	PC	£24·00
Tell Tale Heart: Discus	Mac	PC	£35·00
Thomas's Snowsuit: Discus	Mac	PC	£27·00
Tortoise and the Hare	Mac	PC	£24·80
Ugly Duckling	Mac	PC	£29·00
Vampire's Coffin	Mac	PC	£29·00
Wallobee Jack	Mac		£27·00
Where in the World is Carmen	Mac	PC	£39·00
Word Tales: Time Warner	Mac		£29·00
Zargon Zoo	Mac	PC	£39·00

CLIP AUDIO

510 Soundwaves (·WAV format		PC	£19·00
9000 Sounds (shareware)		PC	£19·00
999+ ·WAV Files		PC	£19·00
A Zillion Sounds (2,177 sounds)	Mac	PC	£25·00
Grooves (100 original tracks)	Mac	PC	£75·00
Killer Tracks: Education	Mac	PC	£39·00
Killer Tracks: Sales	Mac	PC	£39·00
Killer Tracks: Training	Mac	PC	£39·00
Loops: Music for Multimedia	Mac		£49·00
Sound Library Pro (1,200 diff)	Mac	PC	£29·00

CLIP MEDIA

100 Backgrounds	Mac		£25·00
Auto Companion 93	Mac		£189·00
1993 Electronic Companion	Mac		£189·00
Ad Art (Advertising)	Mac	PC	£475·00
Ad Art (Logos and Trademarks)	Mac	PC	£264·00
Ad - Builder (Grocery)	Mac		£95·00
Animal Kingdom	Mac	PC	£25·00
Backgrounds for Multimedia 1	Mac	PC	£139·00
Backgrounds for Multimedia 2	Mac	PC	£159·00
BackIMPACT! Pro	Mac		£59·00
Boris Vallejo Fantasy Art	Mac	PC	£37·00
Business Backgrounds	Mac	PC	£19·00
Cars! Cars! Cars! (photos)	Mac	PC	£39·00
ClipTime Vol1	Mac		£59·00
ClipTime Vol2: American Media	Mac		£155·00
Decades 1920's	Mac		£69·00
Decades 1930's	Mac		£69·00
Decades 1950's	Mac		£69·00
Decades 1960's	Mac		£69·00
Deep Voyage (undersea clipart)	Mac	PC	£21·00
Desktop Pub V3·0 (1700 images)	Mac		£59·00
Full Bloom	Mac	PC	£20·00
Full Page Images	Mac	PC	£189·00
Gallery of Dreams: Wayzata	Mac	PC	£29·00
GIFs Galore	Mac	PC	£39·00
Hanna Barbara Animation Workshop		PC	£39·00
Image Warehouse (TIFF format)	Mac	PC	£69·00
ImageCELS	Mac	PC	£249·00
Instant Art	Mac	PC	£145·00
Instant Buttons & Controls	Mac		£99·00
Island Designs (2 CD set)	Mac	PC	£22·00
Jets and Props (2 CD set) Aircraft	Mac	PC	£34·00
MegaLogo (symbols & tradmarks)	Mac		£159·00
Money, Money, Money	Mac	PC	£22·00
Multi-Ad Display (Quality EPS)	Mac		£89·00
Multiware	Mac		£47·00
Ocean in Motion: Wayzata	Mac		£49·00
PhotoLib GO! CD	Mac	PC	£29·00
Pixar One Twenty Eight	Mac	PC	£169·00
Provecktor II	Mac	PC	£74·00
QuickTime: The CD 93 (2 CD's)	Mac	PC	£49·00
QuickToons: Cartoon Classics	Mac	PC	£19·00
Rainforest	Mac		£36·00
Sky Volume 1 (Version 2·0)	Mac	PC	£69·00
SlickART Plus	Mac		£89·00
Star Trek 25th Anniversary		PC	£34·00
Trick of Light	Mac		£65·00
Visions of Speed	Mac		£29·00
Wayzata 6CD SET D/P Bundle	Mac	PC	£125·00
Wetlands	Mac		£169·00
Wild Places	Mac	PC	£22·00
World View	Mac	PC	£24·00
Wraptures 1	Mac		£69·00
Wraptures 2	Mac		£69·00
Yearn to Learn Peanuts	Mac		£32·00

EDUCATION

A+ Grade Builder		PC	£39·00
All About Science II	Mac		£275·00
Columbus Day by Day	Mac		£89·00
Community Exploration	Mac		£49·00
Dinosaur Safari	Mac		£38·00
Forgetful Freddy	Mac		£29·00
Hawai High: Mystery of Tiki	Mac	PC	£29·00
Home Sweet Home	Mac		£29·00
Illustrated handbook of DTP	Mac		£39·00
Lover's Guide	Mac	PC	£27·00
MacMillan Dictionary Children		PC	£29·00
Maps 'n' Facts PC Globe		PC	£29·00
Marvin Minsky: The Society of Mind	Mac		£29·00
Me Myself and I	Mac		£39·00
Mischievous Marvin	Mac		£29·00
Multimedia Computer Tutor		PC	£19·00
Rosies Lemonade Stand	Mac		£29·00
Spellbound		PC	£28·00
Storybook Maker	Mac		£49·00
Wonders Learning Animals	Mac		£59·00
Wonders Learning Earth	Mac		£59·00
Wonders Learning Growth	Mac		£59·00
Wonders Learning Human	Mac		£59·00
Wonders Learning Plants	Mac		£59·00

ENCYCLOPEDIAS

Comptons Interactive 1994 Edition	Mac		£199·00
Comptons Interactive	Mac	PC	£86·00
Encyclopedia of Dinosaurs	Mac		£45·00
Encyclopedia of Life	Mac		£68·00
Groliers Electronic 1994	Mac		£159·00
Hutchinsons Multimedia 1992		PC	£45·00
Microsoft Encarta	Mac	PC	£68·00
Svinga: Zimbabwe Encyclopedia	Mac		£29·00

ENTERTAINMENT

Animation Festival		PC	£29·00
Crossword Cracker		PC	£19·00
Funny (100 jokes): Warner	Mac		£20·00
Goferwinkels Adventures		PC	£20·00
How God Makes God	Mac		£29·00
I Photograph to Remember	Mac	PC	£29·00
Jokes & Pranks		PC	£15·00
Legend of Overfiend (animations)	Mac	PC	£29·00
Mister X (underground comic)	Mac		£26·00
Scrabble Deluxe		PC	£29·00
Secrets	Mac		£25·00
Shining Flower (Very Zen)	Mac		£24·00
Soft Kill	Mac	PC	£39·00
Virtual 3D (pair 3d glasses indd)		PC	£29·00
Virtual Tarot	Mac		£29·00

FILMS

A Hard Days Night Voyager	Mac	PC	£23·00
Cinema Volta (electricity and	Mac		£29·00
Comic Book Confidential: Voyager	Mac		£19·00
Complete Guide to Special Interest	Mac	PC	£19·00
Criterion Goes to the Movies	Mac	PC	£22·00
Halliwell's Film Guide	Mac		£25·00
Mega Movie Guide (50,000		PC	£34·00
Microsoft Cinemania	Mac	PC	£36·50
Parmount Interactive: Movie Select		PC	£39·00
Roger Ebert's Movie Companion	Mac	PC	£39·00
Salt of the Earth: Voyager	Mac		£29·00
To New Horizons Part 1:Voyager	Mac	PC	£20·00
Ephemeral Films Part 2	Mac		£19·95

FINE ART

Coates Art Reviewer: impressionism	Mac	PC	£29·00
Frick Collection:Paintings	Mac		£145·00

GAMES

7th Guest & Dune Double Pack	PC		£38·80
Action CD		PC	£19·30
Willy Beamish	Mac	PC	£25·00
Battle Chess Enhanced	Mac	PC	£35·00
Better Dead	Mac		£49·00
Blue Force		PC	£23·80
Chaos Continium	Mac		£45·00
Commanche: Maximum Overkill		PC	£29·70
Conan The Cimmerian		PC	£29·00
Critical Path		PC	£29·00
Cruise for a Corpse		PC	£12·75
CyberRace (combat racing)		PC	£32·00
Dagger of Amon Ra		PC	£32·00
Dark Seed (nightmare adventure)	Mac	PC	£37·00
Dennis Miller Greek		PC	£25·00
Doom		PC	£19·00
Dracula Unleahsed		PC	£31·60
Dragon Lair	Mac	PC	£29·00
Dragonsphere		PC	£24·70
European Racers		PC	£49·00
Eye of the Beholder		PC	£12·76
F-15 Strike Eagle		PC	£12·76
F-19 Stealth Fighter		PC	£12·76
F117A/F15-Ver 2		PC	£29·00
Gabriel Knight		PC	£28·00
Goblins 3		PC	£39·00
Golden 7		PC	£39·00
Hell Cab (Meet Raul)	Mac		£44·25
Inca		PC	£45·00
Indiana Jones and Fate of Atlantis		PC	£29·00
Iron Helix (3d Adventure)	Mac	PC	£27·00
Jones in the Fast Lane		PC	£28·70
Journeyman Project (year 2319)	Mac	PC	£28·70
Jump Raven	Mac		£27·00
Jurassic Park		PC	£26·38
Jutland CD (World war battles)		PC	£45·00
King's Quest V		PC	£32·00
Kings Quest VI		PC	£34·00
Labyrinth of Time		PC	£29·00
Lawnmower Man	Mac	PC	£33·80
Leader Board Collection		PC	£26·00
Legend of Kyrandia		PC	£34·00
Leisure Suit Larry 1 CD		PC	£12·76
Lemmings		PC	£25·00
Loom (adventure)		PC	£21·60
Lord of the Rings (Tolkien classic)		PC	£37·00
Lost in Time		PC	£33·00
Lost Treasures of Infocom	Mac	PC	£20·00
Lost Treasures of Infocom II	Mac	PC	£20·00
Lunicus (arcade shoot up)	Mac		£33·80
M1 Tank Platoon		PC	£12·76
Mad Dog Mcree		PC	£29·00
MegaRace		PC	£24·80
Microcosm		PC	£37·00
Microsoft Flight SImulator 5·0	Mac		£32·00
Myst	Mac	PC	£33·70
Pirates		PC	£12·76
Police Quest		PC	£12·76
Populous	Mac		£36·00
Quantum Gate	Mac	PC	£39·00
Ravenloft		PC	£45·00
Rebel Assault		PC	£26·00
Residents Freak Show	Mac		£39·00
Return to the Mooon		PC	£36·00
Return to Zork		PC	£26·80
Sam & Max Hit the Road		PC	£29·00
Secret of Monkey Island		PC	£29·00
Sherlock Holmes Consulting 1	Mac	PC	£29·00
Sim Ant		PC	£34·00
Space Ant		PC	£34·00
Spaceship Warlock	Mac		£45·00
Spirit of Excalibur		PC	£24·00
TFX		PC	£29·00
Tornado		PC	£29·00
Total Distortion (Video Prod)	Mac		£59·00
Ultima I & II (role playing)		PC	£35·00
Magic Death	Mac	PC	£29·00
Who Killed Sam Rupert?	Mac	PC	£27·00
Who Shot Johnny Rock		PC	£29·00
Wing Commander 1 - Deluxe		PC	£35·00
Wolf Pack		PC	£19·00
Wrath of the Gods	Mac		£37·00

HEALTH & MEDICINE

Baby File Conception to Borth	Mac		£36·80
Family Doctor	Mac	PC	£39·00
Kathy Smith Fat Burning System	mac	PC	£37·00
Lifesaver	Mac		£49·00
Mayo Clinic -Family Health	Mac	PC	£28·00
May Clinic - Total Heart	Mac	PC	£39·00
Pill Book (Prescribed drugs)		PC	£39·00
Take Five (health problems)	Mac		£32·00
Your First Child	Mac		£39·00

HISTORY

20 Century Almanac 5CD Set		PC	£49·00
20th Century VIdeo Almanac		PC	£29·00
America Remembered	Mac		£99·00
Anglo-Saxons		PC	£29·00
Archies of History	Mac	PC	£32·00
CNN Time Capsule			£25·00
Desert Storm: Warner New Media	Mac	PC	£22·00
FDR - History Maker	Mac	PC	£32·00
ITN World of News	Mac	PC	£49·00
Phrehistoria			£39·00
Time: Seven Days in August	Mac	PC	£39·00
Time Traveller	Mac	PC	£39·00
World War II Active		PC	£135·00

MasterCard DELTA ACCESS VISA

INTERNATIONAL SALES (6 LINE

TEL: (44) 703 455115

FAX: (0703) 453231

A SELECTION FROM OUR STOCKS OF OVER 1400 CD ROM & CDI TITLES

PRICES CORRECT ON DAY OF PUBLICATION BUT ARE SUBJECT T

PLEASE FREEPHONE BEFORE ORDERING TO COFIRM PRICE AND A

PHONE 0800 317864

LANGUAGE

Asterix Learn French Disk 1	Mac PC	£79·00
Asterix Learn French Disk 2	Mac PC	£79·00
Think and Talk French (Berlitz)	Mac PC	£99·00
Think and Talk German (Berlitz)	Mac PC	£99·00
Think and Talk Italian (Berlitz)	Mac PC	£99·00
Think and Talk Japanese (Berlitz)	Mac PC	£99·00
Think and Talk Spanish (Berlitz)	Mac PC	£99·00
Le Francais Interactiv (French)	PC	£139·00
Learn to Speak English	Mac PC	£49·00
Learn to Speak French	Mac PC	£49·00
Learn to Speak Spanish	Mac PC	£55·00
Learn to Speak Spanish 4·0	Mac PC	£85·00
Nihongoware 1 (ver 2)	Mac	£169·00
Small Talk 1	Mac PC	£125·00

LIFESTYLE

Cookbook USA	Mac PC	£29·00
Flowering Plants	Mac PC	£33·00
Forever Growing Garden	PC	£29·00
Gardening	PC	£15,00
Parenting	Mac PC	£35·00
Plant Doctor	PC	£25·00
Wines of the World	Mac PC	£39·00

LITERATURE

Best of Herman Melville	Mac	£25·00
Best of Washington Irving	Mac	£33·00
Complete Maus	Mac	£44·00
Great Literature	PC	£39·00
Hidden Agenda	Mac	£29·00
Madness of Roland	Mac	£49·00
Monarch Notes	Mac PC	£45·00

MILITARY

A Line in the Sand	PC	£38·00
Aircraft Encyclopedia	PC	£25·00
Great Naval Battles	PC	£35·00
Hi-Tech Aircraft	PC	£59·00

MUSIC

All Music Guide	PC	£29·00
All My Hummingbirds have Alibis	Mac	£29·00
Beethoven 9th	Mac	£39·00
Brahms: German Requiem (2CDS)	Mac	£42·00
Introduction to Classical Music	PC	£46·00
Jazz – A Multimedia History	Mac PC	£37·00
Kaboom (Sound Editor)	Mac PC	£29·00
Microsoft Beethoven	Mac	£35·00
Microsoft Mozart	PC	£36·00
Microsoft Musical Instruments	Mac PC	£35·90
Mozart Magic Flute: Warner	Mac	£39·00
Mozart "Dissonant" Quartet	Mac	£37·00
Orchestra: Warner New Media	Mac	£49·00
Poetry in Motion: Voyager	Mac PC	£19·00?
Strauss: Three Tone Poems	Mac	£37·00
Schubert: Trout Quintet	Mac PC	£37·00
1: Bach and Before: Voyager	Mac PC	£22·00
Vol 2 Classical Ideal: Voyager	Mac PC	£22·00
So You Want to be a Rock & Roll	Mac	£29·00
Stravinsky Rite of Spring: Voyager	Mac	£66·00
The Viking Opera Guide	PC	£95·00
Xplora 1 (P· Gabriel + Book)	Mac	£28·00

PHOTO CD

100 Beautiful Landscapes	Mac PC	£29·00
100 Classic Cars (photos)	Mac PC	£27·00
All Corel Clipart	Mac PC	£19·00
Essential Backgrounds & Textures	Mac PC	£39·00

POLITICS

Capitol Hill	Mac PC	£26·80
Clinton – Portrait of Victory: Warner	Mac PC	£19·00
Power CD JFK Assassination	Mac PC	£29·00
Terrorist Group Profiles	PC	£22·00
Winning Elections (American)	Mac PC	£33·00

PROGRAMMING

386BSD (Unix System)		£19·00
Ada (Prog Language)	Mac	£69·00
BMUG	Mac	£29·00
BMUG TV-ROM	Mac	£29·00
C Users Group Library	PC	£25·00

REFERENCE

All MacTech Vols 1-8	Mac	£195·00
Attica Writers Reference Bookshelf	Mac PC	£47·00
CIA World Fact Book	Mac PC	£29·00
Grolier"s Guiness Disk of	Mac PC	£49·00
Guiness Disc of Records	Mac PC	£29·00
History of the World	Mac PC	£45·00
Investigating 20th Centrury Art (Tate)	PC	£139·00
ITN European Video Atlas	PC	£95·00
Microsoft Bookshelf	PC	£75·00
JFK Assassination	PC	£35·00
Microsoft Bookshelf	Mac PC	£75·80
Oxford English Dictionary VER 2	Mac PC	£425·00
Oxford Thesaurus	PC	£49·00
Power CD Assassination	Mac PC	£29·99
The Daily and Sunday Telegraph	PC	£116·00
The Daily and Sunday Telegraph	PC	£116·00
The Oxford Dictionary of	PC	£49·00
Wayzata World Factbook	Mac PC	£19·00
Websters's Talking Dictionary	Mac	£129·00
World Atlas Windows 4	PC	£37·90
World of the VIkings	Mac	£36·80

RELIGION

Bible Library	PC	£45·00
Bibles & Religion	PC	£10·00
New Family Bible: Warner	Mac PC	£36·00
World Religions	PC	£39·00

SCIENCE & NATURE

All About Science	Mac	£199·00
Amazing Universe	Mac PC	£65·00
Big Green Disk	Mac PC	£43·70
Darwin Multimedia	Mac PC	£59·00
Dictionary of the LIving World	Mac PC	£68·90
Earth Air Fire & Water	Mac	£39·00
Earth and Universe	PC	£29·00
Ecodisc (Pub by the BBC)	Mac	£160·00
Electric Sci Fi Anthology	Mac PC	£22·00
Exploring Earth Science	PC	£189·00
How Computers Work: Warner	Mac	£45·00
Interactive Periodic Table	PC	£94·00
Investigating Plant Science	PC	£139·00
Microsoft's Asimov (I Robot)	Mac	£39·00
Ocean Life 1: Western Pacific	Mac PC	£25·00
Ocean Life 2: Micronesia	Mac PC	£29·00
Oceans Below	Mac PC	£17·90
Small Blue Planet	Mac PC	£24·50
Tropical Rain Forest	Mac PC	£24·50

SHAREWARE

BBS In a Box (Wayzata)	Mac	£69·00
BMUG Resedit collection	Mac	£29·00
CD7 v3·0 Mac (System 7)	Mac	£79·00
CICA Microsoft Windows	PC	£12·00
Full Minerva Library	PC	£47·04
Into-Mac 3 Stanford Uni D/Load	Mac	£29·00
Libris III Britannica	PC	£29·00
MACnificent 7·1: Wayzata	Mac	£37·00
Mega Rom 3·2	Mac	£49·00
Minerva II	PC	£9·95
Minerva III	PC	£12·95
Minerva IV	PC	£15·95
Minerva V	PC	£19·95
Night Owl 9	PC	£29·00
Night Owl 10	PC	£45·00
Shareware CD Set 2CDS	Mac	£99·00
Wayzata's Best Shareware	Mac PC	£35·00
World of Software Mac CD	Mac	£24·00

SPACE

Astrology Source	Mac PC	£39·00
Beyond the Wall of Stars	Mac PC	£29·00
Distant Suns 2·0	Mac	£65·00
MarsBook	Mac	£19·00
Multimedia Space Encyclopedia	Mac	£59·00
Murmurs of Earth: Warner	Mac PC	£39·00
Our Solar System	PC	£15·00
Redshift Multimedia Astronomy	Mac PC	£49·00
Space: A Visual History	Mac C	£29·00
Space Shuttle	Mac PC	£19·80
View From Earth: Warner	Mac PC	£45·00

SPORT

Golf - Who, What, When, Where	Mac PC	£39·00
Great Golf CD: Legends, Links and	Mac PC	£39·00
Greg LeMond's Bocycle Adventure	Mac	£37·00
Links Challenge of Golf	PC	£12·76
Microsoft Golf	PC	£24·80
Outdoor Athlete	Mac	£32·00
Sports Almanac: Warner	Mac PC	£36·00
Sports Illustrated Gold Rush	Mac PC	£36·00

TRAVEL

Adventures (various locations)	PC	£29·00
Australian Walkabout	Mac	£39·00
Exotic Japan: Voyager	Mac	£59·00
From Alice to Ocean	Mac	£39·00
Great Cities of the World V1	PC	£29·00
Great Cities fo the World V2	PC	£29·00
London Multimedia Tour	Mac PC	£29·00
Picture Atlas of the World	PC	£49·00

BUSINESS & TRAINING

Making TIme	CDi	£23·79
Managing Your Boss	CDi	£23·79
Presentation Skills	CDi	£23·79

CHILDREN

Sesame Strret – Letters or Numbers	CDi	£22·97
A Visit to Sesame Street - Numbers	CDi	£22·97
Beauty and the Beast	CDi	£7·65
Beranstein Bears	CDi	£19·14
Brer Rabbit and the Wonderful Tar	CDi	£7·65
Cartoon Carnival	DV CDi	£15·31
Cartoon Jukebox	CDi	£19·14
Chldrens Musical Theatre	CDi	£19·14
Dark Fables of Aesop	CDi	£19·14
Emper0r's New Clothes	CDi	£7·65
Face Kitchen	CDi	£22·97
How the Camel got his Hump	CDi	£7·65
How the Rhino got his Skin	CDi	£7·65
Little Monster at School	CDi	£20·42
More Dark Fables from Aesop	CDi	£19·14
Mother Goose Hidden Pictures	CDi	£12·25
Mother Goose Rhymes to Colour	CDi	£12·25
Paint School 1 or 2	CDi	£15·31
Paint School 2	CDi	£15·31
Pecos Bill	CDi	£7·65
Richard Scarry's Best	CDi	£19·14
Richard Scarry's	CDi	£19·14
Sandy's Circus Adventure	CDi	£19·14
Santa Claus's Mice	CDi	£12·17
Shipwreck	CDi	£19·57
Story Machine Magic Tales	CDi	£19·14
Story Machine Star Dreams	CDi	£19·14
Zombie Dinos from Planet Zeltoid	CDi	£26·80

EDUCATION

A Child Is Born	CDi	£22·97
Tom's Magic Picture Show	CDi	£19·14

ENTERTAINMENT

Create your own Caricature	CDi	£22·97
Karaoke Klassics: Contemporary	CDi	£16·13
Karaoke Klassics: Family	CDi	£16·13
Karaoke Klassics: Greatest Love	CDi	£16·13
Karaoke Klassics: Male Standards	CDi	£16·13
Karaoke Klassics: Special	CDi	£16·13

FILMS

Black Rain	CDi	£12·17
Ghost	CDi	£12·17
Naked Gun 2·5	CDi	£12·17
Patriot Games	CDi	£12·17
The Hunt for Red October	CDi	£12·17
Top Gun	CDi	£12·17

FINE ART

Harvest of the Sun (Vincent Van)	CDi	£22·97
The French Impressionists	CDi	£26·80
Treasures of the Smithsonian	CDi	£30·63
World of Impressionism	CDi	£26·80

GAMES

Alien Gate	CDi	£15·31
Backgammon	CDi	£7·65
Battleship	CDi	£22·97
Connect Four	CDi	£15·31
Dark Castle	CDi	£22·97
Defender of the Crown	CDi	£7·65
Escape From Cybercity	CDi	£30·63
Inca	CDi	£31·48
Kether	CDi	£26·80
Laser Lords	CDi	£30·63
Link: Faces of Evil	CDi	£22·97
Lords of the Rising Sun	CDi	£30·62
Phantom Express	CDi	£24·00
Mystic Midway	CDi	£26·80
Othello	CDi	£19·14
Pinball	CDi	£22·97
Sargon Chess	CDi	£24·00
Space Ace	CDi	£38·29
Tangram	CDi	£7·65
Tetris	CDi	£22·97
Text Tiles	CDi	£15·31
Video Speedway	CDi	£22·97
Voyeur	CDi	£30·62
Zelda: Wanda of Gamelon	CDi	£22·97

HARDWARE

CDi 210 Player c/w 2 disks	CDi	£323·39
CDi 210 with DV Cartridge	CDi	£417·01
CDi DV Cartridge	CDi	£126·81
CDi Mouse	CDi	£41·69
CDi Roller Controller	CDi	£41·69
CDi Touch Pad	CDi	£21·26

MUSIC

Andrew Lloyd Webber (The)	CDi	£12·17
Antistatic	CDi	£12·17
Bon Jovi – Keep the Faith	CDi	£12·17
Bryan Adams – Waking up the	CDi	£12·17
Escape	CDi	£12·17
Louis Armstrong	CDi	£12·17
Pavarotti	CDi	£12·17
The Cream of Clapton	CDi	£12·17
Tina Turner Live in Rio	CDi	£12·17

MUSIC INTERACTIVE

Classical Jukebox	CDi	£12·17
Golden Oldies Jukebox	CDi	£12·17
James Brown	CDi	£12·17
Jazz Giants	CDi	£12·17
Private Lessons: Classical Guitar	CDi	£38·29
Private Lessons: Rock Guitar	CDi	£38·28
Rembrandt: His Art and Music of the	CDi	£12·17
Worlds of ... (DV)	CDi	£12·17

PHOTO CD

Autosport Grand Prix	CDi	£7·62
Bill Brandt: The Picture Post Years	CDi	£10·17
Marilyn Monroe	CDi	£7·65
Nature Under Threat	CDi	£7·65
Photo Journalism: The Best of 1992	CDi	£7·62

REFERENCE

Art of the Czars	CDi	£26·80
Compton's Interactive	CDi	£153·18
Tell Me Why 1 or 2	CDi	£6·12
Tell Me Why 2	CDi	£22·97
The Joy of Sex	CDi	£22·97
Time Life Astrology	CDi	£19·14

SPORT

Caesar's World of Boxing	CDi	£38·28
Caesar's World of Gambling	CDi	£19·14
Full Swing	CDi	£12·72
Goal!	CDi	£16·13
Golf Tips (Customised Golf Inst)	CDi	£20·38
Great American Golf (Game Quiz)	CDi	£23·79
Great British Golf	CDi	£23·78
International Tennis Open	CDi	£26·80
Wimbledon Challenge	CDi	£11·87

VIDEO CD

A Tour of the Univers	Mac PC	CDi	£14·45
D Day	Mac PC	CDi	£14·45
Dinosaurs – The Myths & The	Mac PC	CDi	£14·45
History of Aviation	Mac PC	CDi	£14·45
One Small Step	Mac PC	CDi	£14·45
Pavorotti	Mac PC	CDi	£14·45

CARRIAGE

£3·00 PER ORDER.

EUROPE £5·00 PER ORDER.

PLEASE ADD VAT TO ALL PRICES.

CD DIRECT

UNIT 15, MITCHELL POINT, ENSIGN WAY, HAMBLE, HAMPSHIRE, SO3 5RF. UK

WE DO NOT STOCK OR SUPPLY 'OEM 'OR 'BUNDLE' VERSIONS OF CD SOF

ALL SOFTWARE SENT RECORDED DELIVERY A SIGNATURE WILL BE REQU

CREATIVE

Sound BLASTER

PC Actio

All our prices are subject to delivery charges and VAT at 17.5 %
Any price or contents are correct at time of going to press
Call for a full pricelist containing details of all our produts

Buy of the Month

Visit our new shop

Soundblaster AWE32

- CD quality digital audio
- Professional quality MIDI music
- Advanced signal processor chip
- Sound effects generator
- General MIDI samples in ROM
- Fit up to 32MB of RAM
- 3 CD-ROM interfaces
- 100 % Soundblaster compatible
- Includes telex microphone
- Superb range of bundled software



AWEsome Pack
£339.00
Free ! Kodak Photo CD

Creative L 563 Inter

- Double speed
- Multi-session
- CD-XA compatibl
- Digital audio out
- 320ms access tim
- 300 kB/s transfer
- 64 kB buffer
- Motorized tray
- MPC level 2 complient
- CD audio cable

Soundblasters

oundblaster AWE32
etails above
199.00

6 SCSI-2
6 Bit stereo sound, Panasonic ony & Mitsumi CD interfaces
139.00
ith AdSP Chip fitted
159.00

6 MCD
6 Bit stereo sound, Industry tandard SCSI-2 CD interface
119.00
ith AdSP Chip fitted
139.00

6 Value
6 Bit stereo sound, Panasonic D interface, Not upgradable
79.00

ro Value
Bit stereo sound, Panasonic D interface, MIDI interface
64.00

.0 Value
Bit mono sound, Indy 500 emmings, MIDI interface
49.00

Vaveblaster
MB MIDI ROM, 16 MIDI hannels, 32 note polyphony
149.00

Accessories

CD audio cables
NEC, Toshiba, Sony, Panasonic, Mitsumi, Chinnon and Goldstar
£8.00

MIDI cable
Connect your MIDI instrument to your Soundblaster
£20.00

Y-cable
Connect two joysticks to your Soundblaster
£8.00

Voice Assist
Voice recognition package for controlling Windows programs
£54.00

Speakers

Soundblaster CT-38
Battery operated, bass and treble controls
£14.00

Pro Digital
Mains powered, magnetically sheilded
£29.00

CD-ROM Kits

CR 563 CD-ROM
Details above
£159.00

CD16 Discovery
- Soundblaster 16
- CR 563 CD drive
- Speakers
- Photostyler
- Dinosaurs 3D
- Kid Pix
- Grolier Encyclopedia
- Scooter's Magic Castle
- Syndicate
- Conspiracy

£289.00

Gameblaster CD
- Soundblaster 16
- CR 563 CD drive
- Speakers
- Joystick
- Syndicate
- Conspiracy
- Rebel Assault
- Sim City 2000
- Iron Helix
- Lemmings
- Indy 500

£329.00

CH Joystick

Virtual Pilot
Flightstick Pro
Flightstick
Mach 3
Mach 2
Mach 1+
Mach 1

CD Software

Microsoft ;
Encarta 94
Cinemania 94
Dinosaurs
Art Gallery
Musical Instruments
Beethoven
Mozart
Stravinsky

Pagan - Ultima 8
Battle Isle 2
7th Guest & Dune
SVGA Harrier
Star Trek 25th Anv.
Megarace
Strike Commander
Commanche
T.F.X.

Floppy Softwa

Flight Simulator 5
FS5 Paris
FS5 New York
FS5 Washington
F14 Fleet Defender
Harrier Jump Jet
SSN-21 Seawolf
Sim City 2000
Ultima 8
Ultima 8 Speech Pack
Creepers
Creative Writer
Fine Artist

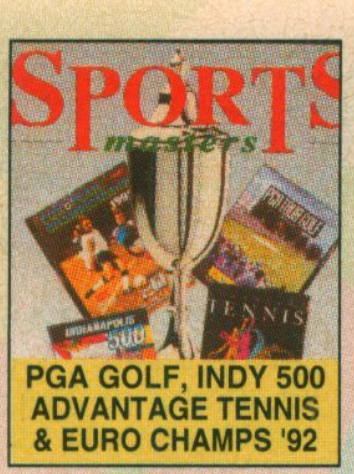
081 893 3630

Cheques payable to PC Action

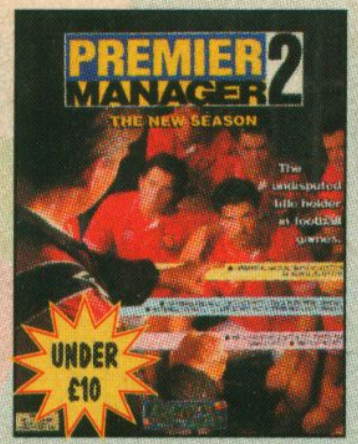
PC Action, 27 Hounslow Road, Whitton, Twickenham, TW2 7BZ



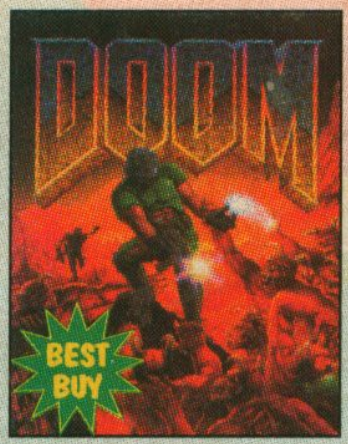
SPACE LEGENDS 9.99



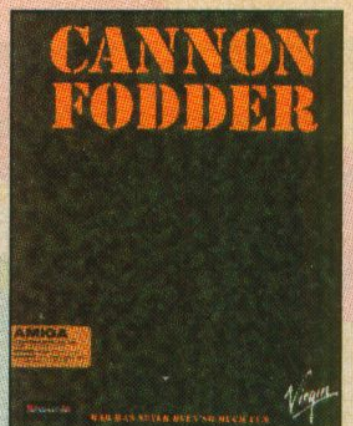
SPORTS MASTERS 9.99



PREMIER MANAGER 2 7.99



DOOM 24.99



CANNON FODDER 23.49

PLEASE NOTE
...phics Adaptor)
...raphics Adaptor)
...ics Array)

...e requirement
...ement of RAM
...ks
...isks included

...AMES
...ECTION PLEASE
...FREE 16-PAGE
...ATALOGUE

...14.49
...11.99
...86 ...24.49
...D V/256C/SV/386 28.49
.../D V/256C/386 ...17.49
... V/386/2MB 29.99
...386 ...11.99
...POOL V/256 ......13.99
.../D V/256C/286 ...20.99
...25.99
...BATTLE ISLE,
...AMURAI) V/286 • ...24.49
...SKY V/386 ......25.99
...OR V/256C/386...28.49
...6 ...23.49
...ER 93/94 V/386 ...12.99
...ER COLLECTION
... V/386...19.99
...ER ITALIA 93/94 19.49
...URBO V/486 ......23.49
...27.49
...E V/286 ......12.49
... 3D GOLF
...13.99
...E V/256C/286 ......28.49
...23.49
...386 • 18.99
...13.99
...24.99
...RM MASTER,
...19.49
...RRAKIS H/D V/286 23.99
...11.49
...D E/V/386/2MB ...24.49
...6/2MB 22.99
...ER (SSI) E/V/286 13.49
... V/386/4MB 27.99
.../256C/386/2MB 28.49
...RT 2 - HAND
...25.99
...56C/386/2MB......28.49
...E/V/SV/386/1MB ...30.99
... DATA DISK-SAN
...1MB 24.99
...RIX V/286/1MB ...27.99
...20.99
...RLD CLASS
...22.49
...S 2 V/386/2MB • ...25.99
...24.99
.../286 ......18.49
... V/286 ......25.99
... OF ATLANTIS
...86 ......24.99
...D V/386/2MB 27.99
...HAOS V/256C/286 11.49

JINXTER (M/SCROLLS) E/286 ......4.49
JURASSIC PARK H/D V/386/2MB 23.49
KINGMAKER H/D E/V/286......24.99
KINGS QUEST 1 E/V/286 ......11.99
KINGS QUEST 2 E/V/386 • 10.99
KNIGHTS OF THE SKY C/E/V/286 ......13.49
LANDS OF LORE V/256C/386/2MB 17.49
LEISURE SUIT LARRY 1 V/286 ......11.99
LEISURE SUIT LARRY 2 V/286 ......11.49
LEISURE SUIT LARRY 6 V/386/2MB 26.99
LEMMINGS C/E/V/286 (DUAL) 14.49
LEMMINGS DATA DISK - OH NO! C/E/V/286 (DUAL) 4.99
LEMMINGS 2 H/D V/286 ......16.99
LINKS (GOLF) H/D V/386 ......12.99
LINKS 386 PRO H/D V/256C/SV/386/2MB 30.49
LITIL DIVIL V/256C/386 ......25.49
LOTUS 3 - THE FINAL CHALLENGE H/D V/256C/286 ......21.49
MAN UTD PREMIER LEAGUE CHAMPIONS V/286......19.99
MASTERS OF ORION V/386/2MB 28.49
MAXIMUM OVERKILL V/386/4MB 18.99
MICRO MACHINES V/386 ......18.99
MORTAL KOMBAT V/386 ......20.99
NFL PRO LEAGUE FOOTBALL V/386/4MB • ...25.49
NHL ICE HOCKEY '94 V/386/2MB 28.99
PACIFIC AIR WAR - 1942 V/386/2MB • ...28.99
PACIFIC STRIKE V/256C/486/4MB 32.99
PINBALL DREAMS H/D V/386 ......23.49
PINBALL FANTASIES H/D V/386 ......23.49
POLICE QUEST 1 E/V/386 • 13.49
POPULOUS & SIM CITY C/E/V/286......20.49
PREMIER MANAGER 2 V/386 ......14.99
PREMIER MANAGER H/D V/286 ......12.99
PRINCE OF PERSIA 2 V/386/2MB 26.49
PRINCE OF PERSIA C/E/V/286 ......10.49
PRIVATEER H/D V/256C/386/4MB/NDS...32.49
PRIVATEER MISSIONS - RIGHTEOUS FIRE V/386/4MB • 15.49
QUARTERPOLE V/386 • 16.49
RAILROAD TYCOON E/V/286......11.49
RAILROAD TYCOON DELUXE V/SV/386 ...25.99
RALLY V/386 ......21.99
RAMPART E/V/386 • 10.99
SAM & MAX HIT THE ROAD V/386/2MB 27.49
SCRABBLE (US GOLD) E/V/286 ......20.49
SEAL TEAM V/386 ......17.99
SECRET OF MONKEY ISLAND V/256C/286 ...13.49
SECRET OF MONKEY ISLAND 2 V/256C/286...25.49
SENSIBLE SOCCER V/256C/286 ......16.99
SETTLERS E/V/286......25.99
SILENT SERVICE 2 E/V/286 ......13.49
SIM CITY DELUXE (SIM CITY, FUTURE CITIES & TERRAIN EDITOR) E/V/286 ...19.99
SIM CITY 2000 SV/386/4MB 25.99
SIMON THE SORCERER H/D V/256C/386 24.49
SPACE HULK H/D V/386 ......28.49
SPACE LEGENDS (WING COMMANDER, MEGATRAVELLER, ELITE PLUS) H/D E/V/286......13.99
SPACE QUEST 1 E/V/386 • 13.49
SPEAR OF DESTINY (WOLFSTEIN 3D) V/256C/386 ......11.49
SPEEDBALL 2 V/286 ......8.99
SPORTS MASTERS (PGA GOLF, INDY 500, ADVANTAGE TENNIS, EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP'S 1992) E/V/386 ......14.99
SSN SEAWOLF V/386/4MB • 28.99
STAR TREK 2 - JUDGEMENT RITES V/256C/386 ......28.99
STARLORD V/386/2MB......28.99
STREETFIGHTER 2 V/256C/286/1MB ...20.49
STUNT ISLAND V/256C/386/2MB 30.49
SUB WARS V/386 ......28.99
SYNDICATE V/256C/386/4MB 27.99
SYNDICATE DATA DISK V/256C/386/4MB ...14.99

TERMINATOR RAMPAGE V/386/4MB ...25.99
TETRIS - 7 COLOURS E/V/386 • 16.99
TFX V/386/2MB 28.49
THE BLUE & THE GREY V/286 ......23.99
THE GREATEST (SHUTTLE, LURE OF THE TEMPTRESS, DUNE) E/V/386 • 14.99
TORNADO V/386/1MB 28.99
UFO - ENEMY UNKNOWN V/386/4MB •...28.99
ULTIMA 6 C/E/V/286 ......11.49
ULTIMA 7 V/386/2MB 26.49
ULTIMA 7 PART 2 - SERPENT ISLE 29.49
ULTIMA 8 - PAGAN V/386/4MB •......30.99
ULTIMA UNDERWORLD 2 V/256C/386/2MB 25.49
UNNECESSARY ROUGHNESS V/386/4MB ...25.99
WING COMMANDER 1 V/286 ......11.49
WING COMMANDER 2 + SPEECH ACCESSORY PACK V/386/2MB 26.49
WINTER GOLD E/V/286 • 12.49
WINTER OLYMPICS V/386 ......24.99
X-WING H/D V/256C/386 ......30.49
X-WING DATA DISK (B-WING) 16.49
X-WING DATA DISK (IMPERIAL PURSUIT) 15.49
ZOOL V/286 ......10.99

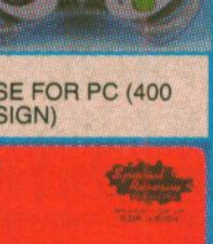
BLANK DISKS
ALL DISK PRICES INCLUDE LABELS
PACK OF 50 SONY DSDD 3.5" DISKS ...22.99
PACK OF 10 SONY DSDD 3.5" DISKS WITH FREE PLASTIC FLIP TOP BOX 6.99
PACK OF 50 SONY HD 3.5" DISKS......29.99
PACK OF 10 SONY HD 3.5" DISKS WITH FREE PLASTIC FLIP TOP BOX 7.99
DELUXE DISK BOX 3.5" (80), LOCKABLE, DIVIDERS 9.99

PC EDUCATION
10 OUT OF 10 - JUNIOR ESSENTIALS (AGES 5-11, BUILDING FOUNDATIONS FOR MANY AREAS OF THE NATIONAL CURRICULUM) 18.99
OTHER 10 OUT OF 10 PROGRAMS AVAILABLE
FUN SCHOOL 4 (2-5 YRS) CGA/EGA/VGA ...17.49
FUN SCHOOL 4 (5-7 YRS) CGA/EGA/VGA ...17.49
FUN SCHOOL 4 (7+ YRS) CGA/EGA/VGA ...17.49
MARIO IS MISSING VGA. EXCELLENT GEOGRAPHY EDUCATIONAL GAME FOR ALL AGE GROUPS......26.99
MAVIS BEACON 2 TYPING TUTOR 24.99
MICRO MATHS (11 YRS TO GCSE. CONFORMS TO NATIONAL CURRICULUM) 18.99
NODDY'S PLAYTIME FOR AGES 3+ 21.49

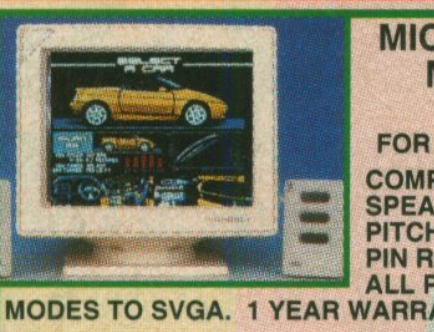
PC APPLICATIONS
BBC GARDENERS WORLD 3D GARDEN DESIGNER 15.99
EASYKEYS MUSIC PROGRAM FOR WINDOWS. MUSIC MAKING UTILITY TURNS YOUR PC INTO A SYNTHESIZER. REQUIRES SOUNDBLASTER 2 OR ADLIB COMPATIBLE SOUND CARD • 27.99
KEY CAD COMPLETE. LOW COST DESIGN PACKAGE. • 37.99
MICROSOFT PUBLISHER 2.0 FOR WINDOWS. FULLY FEATURED DTP PACKAGE WITH EASY TO UNDERSTAND MENUS AND TOOLS, PUBLISHER MAKES IT EASY TO CREATE ANYTHING FROM A SIMPLE ONE PAGE FLYER TO A FULL COLOUR BROCHURE, NEWSLETTER OR MAGAZINE. •......84.99
MICROSOFT MONEY ACCOUNTS PACKAGE. IDEAL FOR SMALL BUSINESS OR HOME USE. WINDOWS REQ'D. 37.49
MAVIS BEACON 2 TYPING TUTOR 24.99
MS-DOS 6.2 UPGRADE......49.99

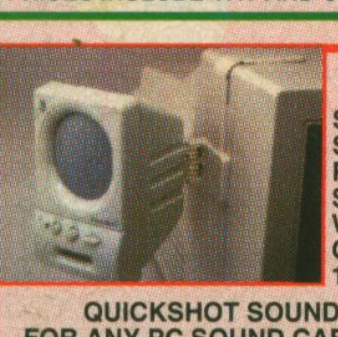
CD ROM GAMES
FOR A FULL SELECTION PLEASE ASK FOR OUR FREE 16-PAGE COLOUR CATALOGUE
7TH GUEST VGA 256 COL (GRAPHIC HORROR MYSTERY) 30.99
BATTLE ISLE 2 •......31.99
BATTLES OF TIME (PERFECT GENERAL, BATTLE ISLE, FIRST SAMURAI, MEGA LO MANIA)......22.99
BENEATH THE STEEL SKY......31.99
CHALLENGE PACK (EPIC, F29, PUSH OVER, ROBOCOP 3, MIGHT & MAGIC 2, CONTRAPTIONS, D-GENERATION, PAPERBOY 2, CHESSMASTER 2100) 25.99
CHAMPIONSHIP MANAGER FOR WINDOWS •......21.99
CHESS MASTER 3000 MULTIMEDIA......25.99
COMANCHE - MAXIMUM OVERKILL • ...30.99
DARKSUN-SHATTERED LANDS 28.99
DAY OF THE TENTICLE 29.99
DRACULA UNLEASHED 30.99
DRAGONSPHERE 28.99
DUNE......33.99
GABRIEL KNIGHT • 28.99
GOLDEN 7 (LEISURE SUIT LARRY 5, HEART OF CHINA, RED BARON, KINGS QUEST 5, GREAT COURTS 2, SHANGHAI 2, SARGON 5) ...33.99
GREAT NAVAL BATTLES 2 (GUADALCANAL) •......25.99
INDIANA JONES FATE OF ATLANTIS • ...29.99
INTERPLAY TENTH ANNIVERSARY ANTHOLOGY (OUT OF THIS WORLD, STAR TREK 25TH ANNIVERSARY, CASTLES, LORD OF THE RINGS, BATTLECHESS, DRAGON WARS, WASTELAND, BARD'S TALE, TASS TIMES, MINDSHADOW) • ...31.99
IRON HELIX 27.99
JOURNEYMAN • 25.99
KINGS QUEST 6 ......28.99
LANDS OF LORE 28.99
LAWNMOWER MAN (32 COLOUR VERSION) 34.99
LORDS OF MIDNIGHT •......24.99
MEGA RACE • 26.99
MICROCOSM 35.99
MICROSOFT GOLF • 34.99
OUT POST • 31.99
POLICE QUEST 4 •......28.99
RAVENLOFT • 31.99
REBEL ASSAULT V/386/2MB 31.99
RETURN TO ZORK......28.99
RISE OF THE ROBOTS 33.99
SAM & MAX HIT THE ROAD 28.99
SHERLOCK HOLMES MULTIMEDIA 35.99
SIM CITY ENHANCED •......31.99
STRIKE COMMANDER 30.99
SUB WAR 2050 •......29.99
SYNDICATE • 31.99
TFX......32.99
TORNADO AND OPERATION DESERT STORM • 34.99
UNDER A KILLING MOON •......35.99
WING COMMANDER AND ULTIMA 6......14.49
WOLFPACK • 19.99

...TICKS & MICE

...LIGHT STICK ...OGUE ...N
...HAWK JUNIOR AUTOFIRE, AUTO CENTER 15 PIN 9.99
...EEWHEEL ...EERING ...HEEL FOR PC ...ALOGUE, 15 ...N. USE IT ...STEAD OF A ...YSTICK ...99
GRAVIS ANALOGUE 15 PIN 29.99
...GIC 3 ...IATRO ...TOFIRE, ...OW MOTION ...PIN ...99
...UICKSHOT 123 WARRIOR 5 ANALOGUE 15 PIN 11.99
...ITEK ...GAGRIP 3 ...ALOGUE, ...TOFIRE ...PIN ...99
...0 ANALOGUE, ... 15 PIN. WITH ...IRE BUTTONS 24.99
...EK ...ASTICK 3 , 15 PIN
BEST BUY
...IASE 9 ...NTOM ...GITAL ...YPAD ...SLOW 15 PIN 15.99
...TALUX MOUSE FOR PC (400 ...I, CLEAR DESIGN) ...49

... MOUSE ...AT WITH SPONGE BACKING 4.99
... ANTI-SURGE 4 WAY ...ON LEAD. PROTECTS ...UIPMENT AGAINST ...CAL SURGES......26.99

CITIZEN PRINTERS
WE STOCK A WIDE RANGE OF PRINTERS AND RIBBONS. PLEASE ASK FOR OUR FULL CATALOGUE
FREE PRINTER LEAD WITH EVERY PRINTER
CITIZEN SWIFT 90C COLOUR PRINTER
9 PIN, 80 COLUMN, 240CPS/54NLQ, 6NLQ FONTS, 2 YEAR WARRANTY 154.99
CITIZEN ABC PRINTER WITH COLOUR KIT
24 PIN, 80 COLUMN, 192CPS/64LQ, 5LQ/1 DRAFT FONT, 2 YEAR WARRANTY. THE EASIEST TO USE PRINTER ON THE MARKET. COMPLETE WITH FREE CITIZEN EASYSTART SOFTWARE FOR PC 164.99
CITIZEN SWIFT 200C PRINTER WITH COLOUR KIT
24 PIN, 80 COLUMN, 216CPS/72LQ 6 LQ/1 DRAFT FONT, AUTO SET FACILITY, INPUT DATA BUFFER, AUTO PAPER LOADING, ENVELOPE PRINTING, 2 YEAR WARRANTY. 189.99
CITIZEN SWIFT 240C PRINTER WITH COLOUR KIT,
24 PIN, 80 COLUMN, 240CPS/80LQ, 9LQ/1 DRAFT FONT, 2 YEAR WARRANTY, AUTOSET FEATURE AND LCD CONTROL PANEL 229.99
DUST COVER FOR 80 COLUMN PRINTER (CLEAR PVC) 4.99
PRINTER LEAD (PARALLEL) 1.5 METRES 7.99
PRINTER LEAD (PARALLEL) 5 METRES 10.99
PRINTER STAND FOR ANY PRINTER. ALLOWS PAPER TO BE STORED UNDERNEATH PRINTER FOR CLEAN AND TIDY OPERATION OF PRINTER. 7.99

MICROVITEC 1438 MULTI-SYNC MONITOR

FOR PC OR AMIGA A1200
COMPLETE WITH STEREO SPEAKERS. 0.28 DOT PITCH RESOLUTION, 15 PIN RGB DIN PLUG. SUITS ALL PC SCREEN MODES TO SVGA. 1 YEAR WARRANTY 299.99
DUST COVER FOR MONITOR (CLEAR PVC)......5.99
PRICES INCLUDE VAT AND CARRIAGE (UK MAINLAND ONLY)

SPEAKERS

SCREENBEAT 3 STEREO SPEAKERS FOR AMIGA OR PC. MAGNETICALLY SHIELDED. CAN BE USED WITH AMIGA, PC SOUND CARD, WALKMAN ETC 13.99
QUICKSHOT SOUNDMATE 4 STEREO SPEAKERS FOR ANY PC SOUND CARD VOLUME AND BALANCE CONTROL, BASS AND TREBLE BOOST, 4W+4W MAGNETICALLY SHIELDED BATTERIES REQUIRED 16.99


WESTERN DIGITAL HARD DRIVES
FOR PC (INTERNAL IDE). VERY HIGH SPEED 3.5" DRIVES, 1" HIGH, 12 MS ACCESS TIME GIVING A TRANSFER RATE OF APPROX 1.5MB PER SECOND. 3 YEAR WARRANTY
212MB MODEL AC1210, 128K CACHE 195.99
250MB MODEL AC2250, 32K CACHE 209.99
340MB MODEL AC2340, 128K CACHE 269.99
420MB MODEL AC2420, 128K CACHE 339.99
PRICES INCLUDE VAT AND CARRIAGE (UK MAINLAND ONLY)

CD ROM DRIVES
These multisession CD ROM drives are compatible with the Kodak Photo CDs, CD ROM games and will also play normal audio CDs. They are to MPC standards which mean they are compatible with all PC Soundcards. CD ROM games can offer fabulous graphics, sound and vast gameplay.
HIGH SPEED 320MSEC ACCESS, 300KB/SEC DOUBLE SPEED DATA TRANSFER, INTERFACE INCLUDED, CD ROM XA & MULTISESSION COMPATIBLE. 5.25" HALF HEIGHT DESIGN.
PANASONIC CR562B INTERNAL CD ROM DRIVE FOR PC WITH AUTOLOADING CD TRAY 169.99
SONY CDU33A033 INTERNAL CD ROM DRIVE FOR PC WITH MOTORISED TRAY LOADING......159.99
PRICES INCLUDE VAT AND CARRIAGE (UK MAINLAND ONLY)

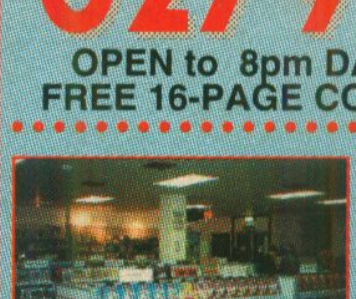
SOUND & GAMES CARDS
PC SOUND EXPERIENCE V2 SOUND BOARD
WITH INBUILT 15 PIN JOYSTICK PORT, MIDI INTERFACE, CD AUDIO INPUT SOCKETS AND UTILITY SOFTWARE. 1 YEAR WARRANTY. 39.99
SOUND BLASTER V.2 SOUND BOARD
WITH INBUILT ANALOGUE (15 PIN) JOYSTICK PORT, MIDI INTERFACE AND CD AUDIO INPUT SOCKETS. WITH LEMMINGS, INDY 500, ORGAN AND TALKING PARROT. 1 YEAR WARRANTY. 59.99
QUICKSHOT PC STARTER PACK
WITH SOUND BLASTER 11 VOICE MUSIC/DIGITISED VOICE/MIDI SOUND BOARD WITH INBUILT ANALOGUE (15 PIN) JOYSTICK PORT, QS123 WARRIOR 5 JOYSTICK AND MATCHING IVORY COLOUR SPEAKERS......69.99
GRAVIS ULTRASOUND 16 BIT SOUND CARD
COMPATIBLE WITH ADLIB AND SOUNDBLASTER. CD QUALITY SOUND, 3D HOLOGRAPHIC SOUND CAPABILITY, FULL MIDI SUPPORT, WINDOWS SUPPORT, JOYSTICK PORT, 4 SOUND UTILITIES. SUITS 386 OR ABOVE......135.99
QUICKSHOT 163 SMART GAMES CARD
FOR PC 386/486 MODELS. 2 X 15 PIN JOYSTICK PORTS, AUTOMATIC CLOCK SPEED DETECTION AND SELECTION, HOT KEY PROGRAM FOR CLOCK SPEED TUNING, SOFTWARE SELECTABLE. 11.99
QUICKSHOT PC GAMES CARD + 113S JOYSTICK
TWIN PORT PC GAMES CARD WITH 113S PC ANALOGUE JOYSTICK (15 PIN)......16.99
PRICES INCLUDE VAT AND CARRIAGE (UK MAINLAND ONLY)

Special Reserve
The Discount Club

JOIN now from just £4.00
READ Special Reserve Magazine
48 Page colour club magazine sent bi-monthly to members only. The latest Reviews, Charts & Release Schedule
CHOOSE from our Huge Selection
Disks, CD's, Cartridges, Utilities, Education, Home Office, New Technology and Hardware. 16 Page colour catalogue.
BUY at Best Possible Prices
Just one purchase from Special Reserve will normally save you the cost of joining. Top discounts on all products.
SAVE with our Special Deals
Always hundreds of Special Reserve Offers. Top games at prices you won't believe and hardware at amazing reductions.
SAVE MORE with our XS Coupons
Money-off coupons worth over £180 a year off top games. You'll find them on the back page of each club magazine.
AND ENTER our FREE competitions
Six reasons why over 200,000 people have joined Special Reserve, the biggest games club in the World!

We only supply members but you can order as you join
Just send in the formbelow or phone. There's no obligation to buy.

0279 600204
OPEN to 8pm DAILY or by Fax on: 0279 726842
FREE 16-PAGE COLOUR CATALOGUE - JUST ASK

CLUB SHOPS

OPEN 10am TIL 8pm SEVEN DAYS A WEEK!
CHELMSFORD - 43 Broomfield Rd
just around the corner from the bus station
SAWBRIDGEWORTH - The Maltings
200 yards from the train station


AMIGA CD32 CD BASED CONSOLE
ALSO PLAYS AUDIO CD's VIA STEREO OUTPUT AND VIDEO CD VIA OPTIONAL FMV ADAPTOR. SPECTACULAR VOYAGE PACK WITH MICROCOSM AND CHAOS ENGINE PLUS ADDITIONAL WING COMMANDER, OSCAR, DIGGERS, DANGEROUS STREETS (WHILE STOCKS LAST) 229.99


ATARI JAGUAR 64-BIT CONSOLE
WITH JOYPAD AND CYBERMORPH GAME FIRST SUPPLIES EXPECTED IN JUNE FIRST COME FIRST SERVED GENUINE UK VERSION 229.99

MEMBERSHIP FEES	6 MONTHS MEMBERSHIP	ONE YEAR MEMBERSHIP	TWO YEARS + FREE HARD BINDER
UK MEMBERS	4.00	7.00	14.00
OVERSEAS EC MEMBERS	6.00	9.00	18.00
OVERSEAS WORLD MEMBERS	7.00	11.00	22.00

WE ONLY SUPPLY MEMBERS BUT YOU CAN ORDER AS YOU JOIN.
All prices include VAT and carriage to UK mainland. See base of order form for overseas surcharges. We supply hardware orders to UK mainland addresses only.
(PLEASE PRINT IN BLOCK CAPITALS) KNIT PC FORMAT

Name______
Address______
______
______Postcode ______
Phone ______Machine______
Enter membership number (if applicable) or
NEW MEMBERSHIP FEE (ANNUAL UK 7.00)
item
item
item
item
ALL PRICES INCLUDE UK POSTAGE & VAT £
Cheque/P.O./Access/Mastercard/Switch/Visa (Switch Issue No______)
Card expiry date______Signature______

Cheques payable to: ***SPECIAL RESERVE***
P.O. BOX 847, HARLOW, CM21 9PH

Overseas Orders Surcharge (EC or World)
Software orders please add £2.00 per item. Non-software items please add 25%. Hardware items supplied to UK mainland only.
Overseas orders must be paid by credit card.

Order/Confirmation/Receipt sent for every order.
We only supply official UK products. Official suppliers of all leading brands.
We sell games and peripherals all at amazing prices for Megadrive, Mega CD, Master System, Game Gear, Super NES, Gameboy, NES, Lynx, Amiga, Atari ST, PC, CD ROM, CDi, CD32 and Apple Mac.
Inevitably some games listed may not yet be available.
Please phone sales on 0279 600204 to check availability before ordering.
We reserve the right to change prices and offers without prior notification.
PRICES CORRECT AT TIME OF GOING TO PRESS. 25.4.94 E .& O.E.
Inter-Mediates Ltd, 2 South Block, The Maltings, Sawbridgeworth, Herts. CM21 9PG.

TOP QUALITY

PLANET DATA

MAIL ORDER DISK SUPPLIERS
WHOLESALE & RETAIL

VISA Access

9 High Street South
Olney, Bucks MK46 4AA
Tel: 0234 240954
Fax: 0234 240272

Call now for your free 14 page catalogue. PD/Shareware games and much, much more.

100 CAPACITY LOCKABLE DISK BOX £3.50 + £2.00 P&P

MOUSE MATS £1.00 + 40P P&P

100% CERTIFIED FULLY GUARANTEED

DS/HD 3.5 PLANET BRANDED			DS/DD 3.5 PLANET BRANDED		
20	£9	+ £2 P&P	20	£8	+ £2 P&P
50	£22	+ £3 P&P	50	£17	+ £3 P&P
100	£43	+ £3 P&P	100	£30	+ £3 P&P
250	£106	+ £3 P&P	250	£70	+ £3 P&P

Villa Shareware

Tel: 0889 567941 Fax: 0889 567941

★ Send S.A.E. for free catalogue ★ ★ Rapid response and 1st class delivery ★

CONQUEST ○
Risk type game for Dos
MONOPOLY ○
Excellent strategy game
POOL ○
Realistic 3D-Pool game
CHINESE CHECKERS ○
Brilliant, like the real thing!!! Also includes QUATRIS. A tetris clone
WOLFENSTEIN 3D ●
Gory, arcade adventure game.
CROSSWORD CREATOR ○
Make your own puzzles and print them out.

GAME OF THE MONTH
DOOM I (2) ★
Version 1.2 with 5 skill levels - NIGHTMARE. Ultra Arcade Game
EPIC PINBALL ○
Great game, supports sound cards
ADVENTURE MATH ○
Brilliant maths teacher with Soundblaster and 256 colour
XARGON ○
Great shoot em up!!! + Good sound track

NO HIDDEN EXTRAS
LOOK - Blank Disks
All disks are 3.5' grade A high clip rate

TYPE	10	20	50	100	200
DSDD	£4.80	£9.20	£22	£40	£72
DSHD	£5.80	£11.20	£27	£52	£100

Mouse Mats!!! red or blue £1-99
DISK CLONER (WINDOWS) ○
Fast disk copier with loads of useful features
CHARTIST (WINDOWS) ○
Flowcharting of professional quality.
ZONE 66 ●
Ultra 32bit 360-degree scro::ing 256 colour with sound blaster sound track

Many more available from our extensive library
A number in brackets = number of disks when more than one
Please make cheques payable to Villa Shareware - No credit cards
○ = DD disk ● =HD disk
1-5 disks - (DD) @£2.00 - (HD) @ £2.50, **6-10 disks** - (DD) @ £1.90 - (HD) @ £2.40
11-20 disks - (DD) @ £1.80 - (HD) @ £2.30
Prices include post and packing.

VILLA SHAREWARE,
BARTON VILLA,
HEATH ROAD, UTTOXETER,
STAFFORDSHIRE ST14 7LT

R C SIMULATIONS

THRUSTMASTER

The pinnacle of excellence from the USA

The modern range of sophisticated and complex flight simulations such as Falcon 3 and Aces Over Europe are increasingly difficult to master with "Garden Variety" shoot em' up joysticks. Space invaders are rarely equipped with sidewinders! THRUSTMASTER replica controllers increase your survivability and quadruple your pleasure.

FLIGHT CONTROL STICK

This replica Phantom joystick has double the usual number of Fire buttons and a "Coolie Hat" that lets you select views simply and quickly with all modern air combat sims. America's No.1 choice for computer jet jockeys. Available in 2 versions. This is the meanest looking joystick in the known universe.

Standard FCS.....£79.95
New Pro FCS.....£109.95

WEAPONS CONTROL SYSTEM

No more fumbling for chaff and flare with this fully programmable replica F15 type Throttle Control. WCS Mark II now works with all programs and even allows you to program FCS buttons and simply connects into your keyboard socket and game port.
FIRE UP THAT AFTERBURNER FOR JUST **£109.95**

PEDAL CONTROL SYSTEM

THRUSTMASTER RUDDER PEDALS ARE HERE.
These pedals are made in the highest standards from aluminium and perform just like those in a F16 Falcon. Set a new course for only £109.95

FORMULA T1 STEERING WHEEL, GEAR CHANGE AND PEDAL SET - WONDERFUL £149.95

subLOGIC RC SIMULATIONS subLOGIC
Be informed - Get Our Newsletter
Access VISA
Unit 1B, Beehive Trading Estate, Crews Hole Road, St George, Bristol BS5 8AY. Tel: (0272) 550900 Fax: (0272) 411052.

'P.C.I.U.G'

PC Independent User Group, 87 High Street, Tonbridge, Kent TN9 1RX.
Tel: 0732 771512 FAX: 0732 771513

THE LATEST IN PC DEMOS

CHEATS FOR GAMES £4.00
Beat the Baddies without staying up all night! Syndicate, Falcon 3, Dune 2, X-Wing, Privateer, Formula 1 Grand Prix, Wolfenstein 3D.
ALL THESE CHEATS JUST £4.00!
Other cheats available, call us now!

Graphics and Ray Tracing. Phone us with your needs - We've probably got it.

Need it in a hurry? Call our BBS on 0732 770 539 for all the latest titles. Speeds 300-9,600 8N1

DEMOS
All the best demos:
Second Reality, Crystal Dreams 2, Cronologia, Delusion, Panic!, Techno Demo, Unreal Megademo, Inferno, Technoholic, Undead, Devils Dance, Jangle, Logical
PRICES FROM £3.00
Over 100 demos available, pick 'n' mix.

THE LATEST GAMES
Brand new shareware titles: Blake Stone, DOOM - you thought Wolfenstein was good! Halloween Harry, Space Chase, plus all the old favourites.
PRICES FROM £3.00
We supply shareware and registered versions of all Apogee titles.

FREE CATALOGUE! SEND SAE
We have thousands of titles available, if you need one you can't see give us a call, we could well have it! Call us for the latest .WAVs, .POVs, Window games, DOS games, sound, MIDI, Graphics etc etc.
All prices include VAT. Post and packing £2.00 (FREE if you order 5 or more disks). For a FREE and easy to use disk based catalogue send us a SAE quoting Ref PCF31.

Access "The Professional Shareware People" AN APPROVED VENDOR FOR FUTURE CREW DEMOS

RED DRAGON SHAREWARE

Access VISA

3 OAKLEA COURT, RHYL, CLWYD LL18 4NP Tel 0745 338094

*Free Catalogue on request *Same day dispatch on orders placed before 12am
*Free advice on all computer matters *5.25 Disks + 3.5 Disks @ £2
Payment by Cheque or Credit Card (Telephone orders accepted)
Thousands of disks available for IBM and IBM compatible computers.
Shareware is not free, please register if you find the program useful.
SPECIAL OFFER PACKS OF 7 High Density 3.5" IBM DISKS @ £16.00
These packs as described below contain on average 28 normal disks placed on to 7 x 3.5" High Density disks, and represent an excellent saving to people with HD drives.
VGA screen also needed. ALL 4 PACKS + FREE MOUSE MAT FOR ONLY £42
(over 100 disks placed on 28 HD disks)

VGA GAMES HD PACK
30 VGA Games placed on 7 HD Disks for only £16. Normally these would cost approx £50 if bought individually and the titles include:
Zone 66, Lost in Space, Bio Menace, Save Our Pizzas, Jetpack, Desert Raid, Halloween Harry, Space Chase, Night Raid, Defender of Boston, Major Stryker, Mario VGA, Dangerous Dave, Bunny Army, Miner VGA, Bananoid, Peg, Catchem, Hexagon, Avaricus, Bluebells, Gravity Wars, Dazzle, VGA Sharks, Roulette, VJfg, VGA Life, Alien VGA, Concentration.

PRIMARY EDUCATION HD PACK
35 Educational Programs placed on 7 HD Disks for only £16. Normally these would cost approx £55 if bought individually and the titles include:
Henrietta's Book of Spells, Hooray for Henrietta, Talking Teacher, Kids Bankbook, Spellbound, Snakes & Ladders, Where's that Mouse, Billboard, Jigsaw, Happy Games, KidPaint, Wordtrix,
Kid Games, Amy's 1st Primer, AnimatedShapes, Animated Alphabet, DressMeUp.
Word Gallery, Magic Crayons, plus many more.

WIN3 GAMES HD PACK
30 Disks of Windows Games placed on 7 HD Disks for only £16. Normally these would cost approx £60 if bought individually and the disks contain over 70 titles including:
Chess, Backgammon, Xword, Checkers, Cubic, Hextris, Brick, WinPoker, Gravity, TaiPei,
Win Hang, Ruthie, Ciphyr Card Games, Black Box, Oil Baron, Jewel Thief, Kye, Sokoban, Warheads, plus many, many, more.

PINUPS HD PACK
29 Normal Disks placed on 7 HD Disks for only £16. Normally these would cost approx £55 if bought individually.
This contains a mixture of mostly Pinups, with some Games and Animations. This pack is on offer to the over 18s only. This is so as not to offend and so as to be sure, payment will only be accepted by Credit Card either by post or over the phone.

MaxPak

This is the best windows sequencer

New MaxPak version 2.0. Now includes score writing and print-out, MCI sample playback and design you own mixers. It also has MIDI machine control for operating your tape recorder from the PC. It is the only pattern-based sequencer for windows, and now comes with over 40 librarian profiles for storing MIDI sound dumps. Coming soon, SeqMax Presto for only £109 **£199**

Band-in-a-Box 5.0	£75
Cakewalk Pro for Windows 2.0	£255
Coda Finale Academic	£299
Cubase for Windows / Cubase score	£best
QuickScore Deluxe	£99
Dream GMX1 GM synth	£135
MIDI Master Keyboards from	£99
Passport MusicTime + free Trax 2.0	£199
Passport Encore + free Trax 2.0	£399
Roland ATW10 sampling card	£best
Turtle Beach Wave for Windows	£99
Software Audio WorkShop	£499

WINDOWS 3.1 COMPATIBLE MIDI INTERFACES
MPC401 - £69
16 MIDI channels
V22 - £99 - 32 MIDI channels
V24s - £249 - 64 MIDI ch / SMPTE
Music Quest 2Port / SE - £199
32 channels + SMPTE, LPT port interface
KEY Mediator - £99 or £149
Laptop interface, 16 or 64 channels

Trax

Trax 3.0 is the ideal way for windows users to experiment with MIDI sequencing. Trax gives you 64 MIDI tracks, each with its own volume fader, with separate edit windows for bars and notes (using easy-to-work-with piano-roll notation or score notation). Trax supports MPU401, multi-media extensions, GS standard, General MIDI and Soundblaster. It can trigger sampled sound using MCI.
Offer : £99

WINDOWS 3.1 MIDI MUSIC

SOUNDFX

Remarkable new sound card for music, games and multimedia. 16 bit sample-record and playback, built-in Wavetable synth with GM compatibility. MIDI interface kit included in the price. Various on-board CD-ROM interfaces. This card is ideal for people who want their sound card to sound like actual real instruments and not electronic beeps ! **£189**

Roland DESKTOP MIDI SYSTEM

We are almost certainly Roland's biggest single retail outlet. This means that we can offer the entire Roland range of MIDI Music products at competitive prices, with great technical backup.
ATW10, SCC1, SC7, CM300, PC150, PC200GS, CS10, CS30. MPU-IPC, SuperMPU, MA12C,

SOUNDHOUSE / TURNKEY
114 CHARING CROSS RD.,
LONDON WC2H 0DT
071-379 5148
Fax : 071-379 0093
UK residents add 17.5% VAT
24 delivery nationwide (£9)
Additional sales staff required.

Musicator for windows

Music Notation, Printing and Sequencing
Seamlessly Integrated : Here's a pro score package which also has piano-roll editing, overview arrange page, continuous controller drawing, and most incredibly, total control of the Roland Sound Canvas range (eg SCC1). Other goodies include multiple undo levels, GS drum mixer, TrueType compatible.
Musicator GS - £249 free demo available

PC REPAIRS & UPGRADES

★ **WE REPAIR THE FOLLOWING** ★
★ SYSTEMS ★ MONITORS ★
★ PRINTERS ★ LAPTOPS ★
★ POWER SUPPLIES ★



★ **WE CAN SUPPLY THE FOLLOWING** ★
★ MEMORY UPGRADES ★ CD ROMS ★
★ SOUNDCARDS★ MONITORS ★
★ LAPTOPS ★

COLLECTION/DELIVERY ARRANGED

PC COMPATIBLE SYSTEMS BUILT TO YOUR SPECIFICATION AND BUDGET!
CALL FOR A FREE QUOTATION

HAWKWELL ELECTRONICS
Mount Bovers Lane, Hawkwell, Essex SS5 4JB Tel: Southend on Sea 0702 207593 / 207274

PETER LEE'S GRAPHICS WORKSHOP

PART ONE

Fed up with being a spectator in the great graphics explosion on the PC? Tired of having virtual sand kicked in your face by professional computer artists. Us too. Now's the time to fight back with a copy of Neopaint and the start of a new graphics series by Peter Lee.

Artistic skill – you're either born with it or you're condemned to draw matchstick men for the rest of your life, right? Wrong. While inborn skill can give some people an easy ride, the rest of us have to rely on hard work and technique for our graphics. The hard work you have to provide yourself, but with the techniques we reveal over coming months there's no reason why you can't create some "Whoa! Did *you* do that?" kind of images on your PC. Maybe not quite up to *The 7th Guest* standard, but hopefully something you'd be proud to put your name to. We take a look at tricky graphic areas which tend to trip people up – perspective, shadow, colour, design, layout, textures – and ways of getting the better of them.

Here's some advice on starting out, and also a taster of the topics we'll be covering over the coming months.

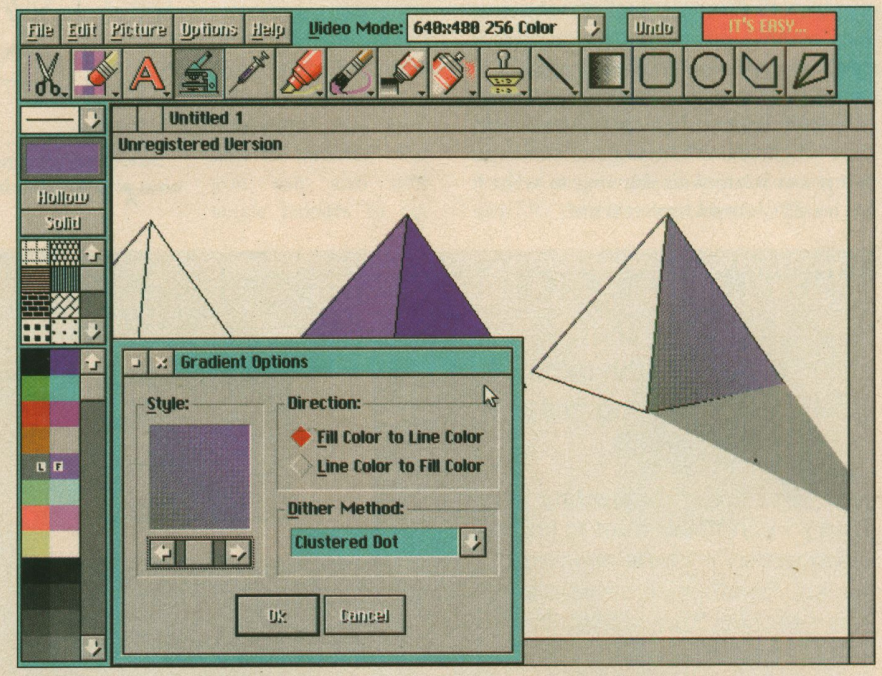
Back to basics

Any of today's PC art packages provide basic drawing functions: rectangles, circles, lines, freehand and fills, which are all you need to start with.

It's blindingly obvious, but any drawing should begin with an idea. Think about what you'd like to see on-screen before you start, because you could find yourself going snow blind staring at a blank screen waiting for inspiration to tap you on the shoulder.

Get real

PC artists face some of the same challenges as those using the more traditional →



Most drawing programs enable gradient fills. In this case, *Neopaint* takes care of texture with a Cluster fill from dark to light blue.



SCISSORS

Click on the scissors icon to enable the cut and paste option. Move to the canvas area, click with the left-hand mouse button where you want to start your cut. Move the mouse, clicking the mouse button wherever you want a corner in your cutout, eventually coming back to the starting point. Now click the left-hand mouse button on the cutout to move it around. Click the button again when the cutout is in place. Easy.



PENCIL RUBBER

To undo slight glitches, click on the pencil rubber icon and a small dot appears when you move the mouse cursor into the canvas area. Press and hold down the left mouse button to erase.



LETTER A

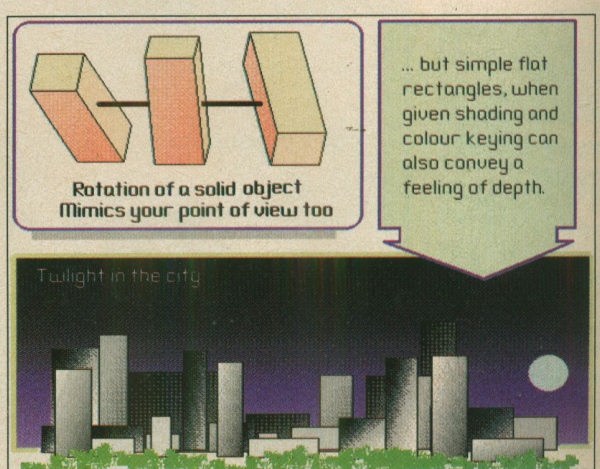
Click on the letter icon to add text to the picture.

Neopaint 2.2

Regular readers should be familiar with *Neopaint 2.2*, the art package we're using in this series, as we gave an older version of the program away on the Coverdisk of issue 24. You can order back issues by calling our hotline on ☎ 0225 822511

If you're currently reading the CD-ROM version of *PC FORMAT* you can find a free copy of *Neopaint 2.2*, the latest version of the program, on our CoverCD. Unfortunately we couldn't fit it on to our 3.5-inch disk, but you can get hold of it from Transend Services ☎ 0274 622228 (the registration fee is £45.83 plus £3 postage).

But even if you prefer another drawing package, the foundations of good computer art are the same whether you use *Neopaint* or another package that costs 10 times as much.



***Neopaint* gives users a boost with its 3D drawing function. Here it's used in wire-frame mode to show how it can help provide perspective in an image. But just by using light and shade you can suggest a 3D world. The night scene uses simple rectangles filled with different gradient fills. The sky, too, is a gradient fill from blue to black.**



HYPO-DERMIC NEEDLE

To sample a colour from another picture, first click on the hypodermic needle icon, then on the section of the picture containing the colour. The colour then appears in place of the colour that you last selected and can be saved using the Options menu.



FELT-TIP PEN

Draws lines in any colour and any thickness. Click on a colour from the palette on the left-hand side of the screen, then on the pen icon. Move the cursor down into the drawing area and click with the left-hand button where you want to start drawing the line. To stop drawing, just take your finger off the button.



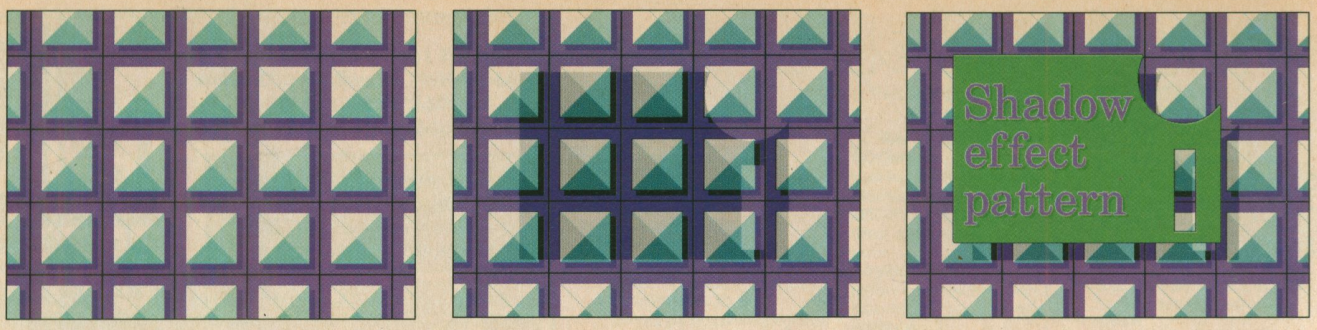
PAINT-BRUSH

For a softer line than the felt-tip pen, select the paint-brush. This is used the same way as the pen.



TUBE OF PAINT

To paint a large area in a single colour use the tube of paint, which fills in large areas that have first been sectioned off with a drawn line. Click on the tube and then click again within the boundaries of the area that you want to fill.



The main image uses only 16 colours, but shows how a shadow conveys perspective and depth. The original screen pattern was duplicated, with darker colours, the shape of the foreground plaque mimicked to form a shadow, over which the object was placed.

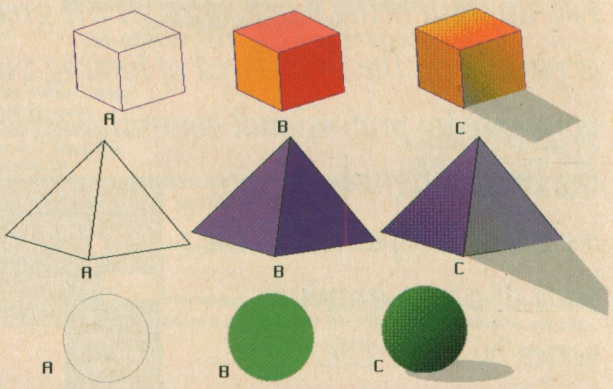
→ materials. For example, as a PC artist you will often be faced with the task of representing the third dimension on a flat surface. PC graphics have the power to unleash a fantasy world, but if you want to create representational pictures and you want others to recognise them, they should have at least one foot in what passes for the real world. One way of achieving this is through the use of perspective.

Having established the perspective, how else can you create the illusion of a 3D scenario? Well, taking a single object as your starting point, you can suggest a 'real', approachable 3D form by giving it an appearance of volume through the use of colour, light and shade. Give the eye clues – lightsource and angle of view – so that it can relate your drawing to what it has learnt to expect from real life.

Shadowlands: Lightsources make anything blocking them cast a shadow, and give objects highlights on areas closer to the light. A highlight is a descriptive thing, giving an edge glint to metal or reflecting on a polished surface. It suggests perspective and gives a feeling of bulk.

Take a peek at a shadow. Surprisingly, shadows aren't black. It may be hard to see, but a shadow has tinges of the colour

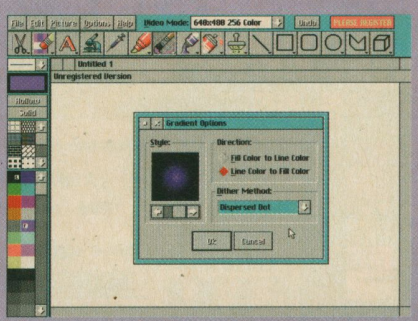
(A) Three basic drawing shapes. (B) Shading is added for depth. (C) Finally texture and lightsource are added.



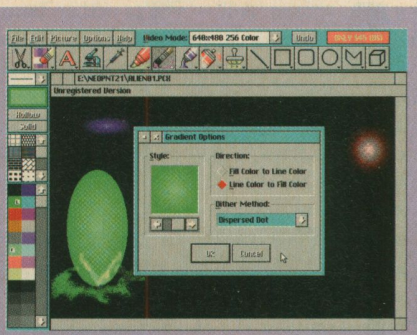
EGG ON YOUR FACE

The tutorial that shows you how to recreate the most stomach-wrenching images you could imagine...

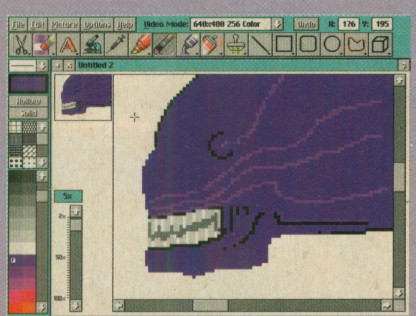
It's all very well suggesting ideas, but you probably want to know how to create stunning images using the effects and techniques we describe. This month, as an introduction, we show you how to create this alien set in outer space, utilising some of *Neopaint's* special features.



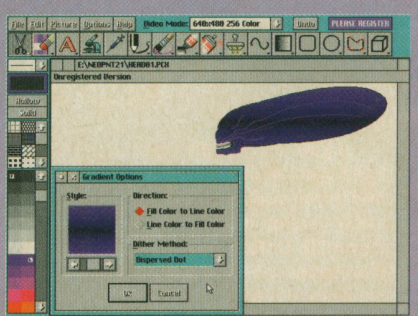
First create the star clusters using *Neopaint's* gradient fill feature. Using the right-hand mouse button, select black for the line colour, then use the left button to select blue for the foreground colour. Now use the filled ellipse tool with dispersed dot fill to create a gaseous ball.



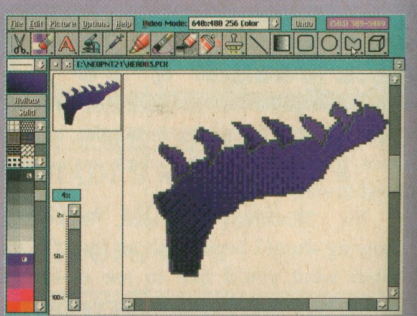
Next move on to drawing the egg. This is done in a similar way to the galaxy clouds, but the line colour is dark green and the foreground light green, which gives a solid highlighted effect when you draw out a filled oval. *(Or egg-shape, to be more precise about it – Dan)*



Add grey and white teeth to bring that deadly grin to life and, for the final touch, vessels running around the creature's face and head. As far as is known, these things have no eyes, just a depression.



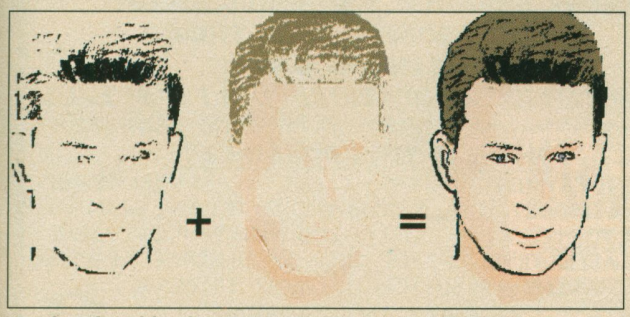
The tricky bits of the head are behind you now, so you can think about a textured fill. Use these gradient fill options to get that eerie blue sheen mixed with black. Aliens *are* blue, aren't they?



Now the alien needs a body, of some description. The creature's back and spine area is composed of a freehand filled shape which is topped by similar, smaller filled shapes.

it's falling on. The beauty of computer art packages is that they help enormously in creating realistic shadows. Shadows are created by taking the original image or text box and moving the bottom of the box left or right, thus elongating the image to form a shadow. The shadow is then painted on screen in a dim grey colour. If you have a square object, the way the shadow falls depends on where the lightsource is located. If it's high, the shadow will be squat, while if it's low down the square casts a long shadow. In either case, all you do is figure out the right angle, and let your drawing software get the edges true.

Shadows are just as important indoors as out, because they tell us as much about the object they fall on as the thing which casts them, which helps to create a figure-ground relationship. Even if your artwork is fictional – abstract shapes or beefy text – the use of shadows will add to the effect.



Simple colour blending gives an impression of bulk and form. Here a line drawing is transformed by the addition of skin tone and a few shadows and highlights.

Colour palette: Although you may have a graphics card enabling up to 16 million colours, you are likely to find that *Neopaint's* 256-colour VGA mode is most suitable for when you want to draw quickly, without restricting your creativity. In *Neopaint* you can globally alter colour attributes – brightness and contrast for instance – but you can also edit single colours to get the exact shade you need. One of the most common mistakes made by newcomers to PC art is to make their drawings overly garish, when what is in fact called for is subtlety. Muted tones can convey atmosphere extremely effectively, for example. We take a look at colour later in the series.

What's next?

This brief overview of the graphics you can create using your PC should have whetted your appetite – next month's tutorial gets down to specifics.

We take a look at how to represent surfaces and materials realistically. Why are glass, wood, stone and metal so difficult to reproduce on-screen? We show you how. And, of course, there'll be another step-by-step DIY project using *Neopaint*. PCF

THE HARD SELL What's all this art malarkey good for?

1 Ask yourself why you sit at your PC for hours at a time. Then own up and admit that it's nothing to do with all those clever things you used to justify its cost when you bought it. How many times have you actually used that money manager you had such big plans for? The PC is there to entertain, enjoy and stimulate. And creating striking graphic screens from your own ideas does exactly that.

2 To put your own personality into printed output. It's all very well having store-bought clip-art to load into your word-processing documents or DTP pages, but they're usually hopelessly American or pitifully inadequate. Create your own, to meet your needs.

3 Project illustrations, advertising flyers, letterheads, newsletters, and captions – you can create designs for almost anything you fancy. You could create the text and graphics for T-shirts or sweatshirts, then have them printed up and give them to all your mates. They'll hate you for it.



SPRAY CAN

For a different painting effect, use the spray can. This spurts out a stream of dots on the canvas at a continuous rate, so the faster you move it, the less paint shows up. It's used in the same way as the paint-brush and felt-tip pen, but if you double-click on the icon, a menu appears enabling you to alter the flow rate and size of the spray area.



RUBBER STAMP

There are a few dozen little drawings called stamps, which you can select and place in your picture – eyes and other facial features for example.



VARIOUS SHAPES

Clicking on these six icons enables you to draw faultless shapes. Click on the icon, then where you want the shape to appear. For circles, drag the shape out by holding down the left mouse button. For angular shapes, click on the corner points.

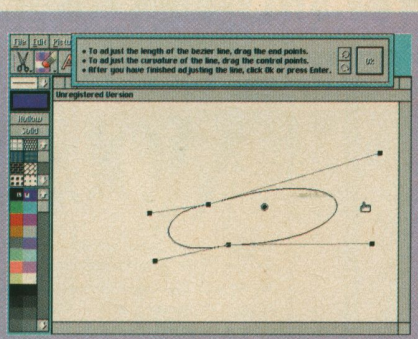


MICROSCOPE

The microscope icon enables you to zoom in on small areas of your picture so that you can make fine adjustments. Click on the icon, then map out a rectangular section of the picture to zoom into.



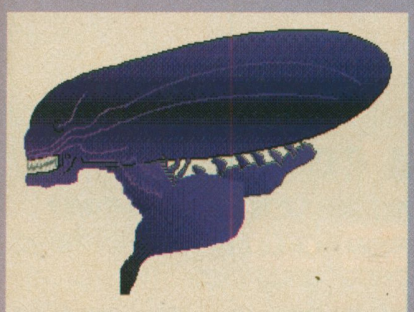
Place the egg on the left of the screen, lying in an airbrushed 'nest' of greens. To form the blue galaxies and the distant sun use the gradient fill set to dark blue to black for the galaxies, and grey-black for the sun. Add a few stars using the thinnest line setting and painting a dot.



Time to start the alien. *Neopaint* has a feature enabling you to distort a shape before you commit it to your drawing. Stretch out a long oval for the alien's head, moving the control points to get the elongation aspect right, and a suggestion of the face at the left-hand side.



This magnified view shows how you can get the alien's face to take shape by painting in contours. *(Can you paint in the dripping, viscous saliva pouring from the Alien's maw as it prepares to rip the living, pulsing flesh from a hapless member of the starship Nostromo? – Ed)*



Here the shoulder is simply another filled freehand shape, and the spine is added after being clipped out as a brush and positioned. Ugly little sucker, isn't he? Wouldn't like to meet him in a dark etc...



Before clipping out the alien, draw a freehand single-colour (blue) trail of interstellar gas, to add depth to the picture. Clip out the alien, and position it on the right, then enter a few words of text.



The final touch. Add a message at the bottom of the screen to tell a story. *(But it doesn't tell you about the bit where Ash's robotic head is smashed off by Parker in a marvellous set-piece, does it? – Ed)*

SHAREWARE & PD

Over 45,000 programs to choose from !

All Shareware & Public Domain tastes catered for

£1.50 PER DISK **FREE Software Offer!**

Our library includes ALL types of games, graphics, business & educational software, plus hundreds of Windows & DOS utilities, along with much more! Our latest catalogue disk costs £1.00 & includes a superb Shareware game or top CAD package.

DOOM
DUKE2
XARGON
BLADE STONE
plus many more!

FONT PACK 2
230 Truetype Windows 3.1 fonts including Printer's Aprentice
£6.99 inc. P&P

All software supplied on 3.5" disks

Vision Shareware

Tel: (0909) 566375

Please make cheques/PO's out to Vision Shareware
25 Grangewood Rd, Laughton, Sheffield, S31 7ZE

OVER 3 GIGS of data on-line!

GC·BBS

Win Cash Prizes On-line!

All speeds up to **28,800**. Settings: 8,n,1.

081-428 8522 & 081-421 5181 to view. 0891 616900 to download.

- Electronic Mail! *Communicate with the world!* (Chat, technical problems, hobby, music, software support, programming, games, music, comms etc etc.)
- Over 500mb of GIF files
- View GIF files on-line & download a small preview of the final larger image
- Over 170 file areas. Full of shareware and GIFS ready for immediate download!
- Play games on and off-line
- FREE classified section! Buy/Sell/Trade items or services
- Win prizes!

Play **VGA PLANETS** a major **off-line** Game!

A multiplayer game of inter-galactic mining, colonisation and combat. Played on your own computer *off-line*. Simply upload and download your turn file which is only approx 2k - Yes! 2k thats all!

Calls to 0891 616900 are charged at 36p per minute cheap rate and 48p per minute at all other times. E&OE

MICROLAND BULLETIN BOARD SYSTEM

0891 990 505 To Download

0483 725 905 To View

Shareware to download at V32bis, V32, V22bis, V22, V23, & HST etc. 8 data bits, no parity.

INTERNET CONNECTED

Microland is now connected to the world's largest network. We now provide full global mail, news, software archive, and interactive services. Don't miss out, get connected and explore the world of Internet. Download from the biggest archives in the world. Services subject to availability.

Why wait for your software when you can download now direct to your computer. Microland offers high speed connections and most files are compressed to minimise the cost. Check it out on 0483 725 905 at normal call charges. So much shareware you are spoilt for choice.

Calls to 0891 990 505 charged at 39p per minute cheap rate, 49p per minute all other times. Trevan Designs Ltd. PO Box 13. Aldershot, Hants. GU12 6YX.

UFO * BENEATH A STEEL SKY * T.F.X.
REBEL ASSAULT * GABRIEL KNIGHT
SIM CITY 2000 * STAR TREK 2
ALONE IN THE DARK 2

THESE TITLES (& 100's MORE) ONLY £4.95 EACH

!?!?!?

under new management we do not charge visa until day of despatch

DIRECT SOFTWARE

Regular FREE giveaways when you Buy from Direct

DEPARTMENT PCF06SC, UNIT 3, CROSSKEYS SHOPPING MALL, St NEOTS, CAMBRIDGESHIRE PE19 2AU

TELEPHONE ORDER LINE – 0908 379550 FAX: 0908 277142

PC TITLES

256 Pro Scanner	£60.00
7th Sword of Mendor	£19.99
A10 Tank Platoon	£25.99
Alien 3	£19.99
Arcade Pool	£12.99
A-Train	£25.99
A-Train Construction Kit	£22.99
A320 Airbus (Edition Europe)	£27.99
A320 Approach Trainer	£25.99
Abandoned Places 2	£25.99
Aces Over Korea	£26.99
Aces of Europe	£26.99
Aces of Pacific HD VGA	£23.99
Aces of the Deep	£27.99
Advantage Tennis	£18.99
Air Bucks	£19.99
Air Combat Aces	£19.99
Air Commander	£21.99
Air Sea Supremacy Compilation	£22.99
Air Warrior VGA	£22.99
Airforce Commander	£22.99
Akira	£19.99
Alcatraz	£19.99
Allo Allo	£15.99
Alone in the Dark 2	£27.99
Ambermoon	£21.99
Amberstar	£22.99
American Football	£22.99
Animation Classics	£29.99
Animation Package	£29.99
Another World	£12.99
Archer Macleans Pool	£19.99
Archon Ultra	£19.99
Armaeth	£19.99
Armour Geddon	£24.99
B17/Dogfight	£31.99
B17 Flying Fortress	£19.99
Balance of the Planet	£9.99
Bane of Cosmic Forge	£24.99
Bat 2	£24.99
Battlechess 4000	£19.99
Battles of the South Pacific	£28.99
Battle of Time	£19.99
Battle Drome Metal-Tech	£25.99
Battle Isle II	£25.99
Beneath Steel Sky	£21.99
Betrayal at Krondor	£25.99
Black Crypt	£19.99
Bloodnet	£27.99
Blues Brothers Juke	£19.99
Blue Force	£25.99
Body Blows	£19.99
Book of Games 3	£21.99
Breach 3	£25.99
Brush Pen	£25.99
Burning Rubber	£19.99
Caesar Deluxe	£22.99
California Games 2	£23.99
Campaign 2	£23.99
Cannon Fodder	£22.99
Captive 2	£22.99
Carmen USA Deluxe	£25.99
Carrier Strike	£24.99
Cartoon Racer	£19.99
Castles 2	£21.99
Celtic Legends	£21.99
Champions of Krynn	£19.99
Champions of Raw	£9.99
Chess Maniac	£22.99
Champ Manager Italia	£16.99
Chess Master 4000 Turbo	£22.99
Christmas Lemmings	£9.99
Clip Art Batman + NF	£12.99
Colossus Compilation	£17.99
Commanche Maximum Overkill	£24.99
Commanche Mission Disk	£12.99
Commander Over the Ed	£16.99
Companions of Xanth	£25.99
Complete Chess 15K	£16.99
Conquered Kingdoms	£27.99
Cosmic Spacehead	£16.99
Creation	£32.99
Creepers	£17.99
Cuckoo Zoo	£22.99
Curse of Enchantia	£16.99
Cyberspace	£23.99
Dangerous Streets	£16.99
Dark Seed VGA	£25.99
Darkmere	£22.99
David Leadbetters Golf	£12.99
Deja Vu 1+2	£12.99
Delta 5	£28.99
Demongate	£21.99
Dennis	£19.99
Dennis & Gnasher	£24.99
Detroit	£25.99
Diggers	£22.99
Dinosaur Detective Agency	£10.99
Doom	£22.99
Dragonsphere	£27.99
Dr Brain 2	£26.99
Dreamlands	£19.99
Dreamweb	£24.99
Dune 2	£21.99
Dungeon Hack	£25.99
Dungeon Master 2	£25.99
Eagle Eye Mysteries	£22.99
Elder Scrolls	£25.99
Elite Deluxe	£24.99
Epic	£21.99
European Champions	£19.99
Evasive Action	£22.99
Even More Incredible	£25.99
Excess Denied	£22.99
Explorer	£25.99
Eye of the Storm	£19.99
F-P-S Pro Football	£25.99
F4	£19.99
F117A Nighthawk EGA/VGA	£24.99
F14 Fleet Defender	£28.99
F15 Strike Eagle 3	£25.99
F153	£12.99
F16 Combat Pilot	£8.99
FA Premier League Football	£18.99
Falcon 3.0/F15	£31.99
Falcon 3.0/Mig 29	£19.99
Falcon Operation Counterstrike	£8.99
Falcon Operation Firefight	£8.99
Fatal Strokes	£22.99
Fatman	£16.99
Fatty Bear	£25.99
Fine Artist	£31.99
Fire & Ice	£19.99
Flight Sim 4	£34.99
Flight Sim 4 (Zone 1 - France)	£22.99
Flight Sim 4 (Zone 2 - North Europe)	£22.99
Flight Sim 4 (Zone 6 - UK)	£22.99
Flight Sim 4 (Zone 7 - Germany)	£22.99
Flight Sim 4 - Aircraft & Adv- Factory	£22.99
Flight Sim 4 - Flight Adventure 701	£22.99
Flight Sim 4 - Flight Planner	£20.99
Flight Sim 4 - Rescue Adventure 685	£20.99
Football Manager 3	£19.99
Formula 1 Team Manager	£29.99
Freddy Pharkas Frontier Pharmacist	£24.99
Front Page Sports Football	£25.99
Fun School 4 (5-7)	£16.99
Fun School 4 (7-11)	£16.99
Fun School 4 - U5	£16.99
Fury of Furries	£21.99
G. Gooch World Cricket	£22.99
Gateway 2	£22.99
Genesia	£22.99
Global Domination	£25.99
Goblins 3	£25.99
Grandslam Bridge 2-0	£28.99
Grandslam 2 Wind	£28.99
Hanna Barbera Anim Workshop	£29.99
Hardball 3	£21.99
Hardball 4	£22.99
Harpoon 2	£27.99
Harrier Hayes	£28.99
Harrier/Taskforce	£31.99
Head to Head (F15 2 and Mig 29)	£24.99
Heimdall	£19.99
Heirs to the Throne	£27.99
Hired Guns	£28.99
History Line 1914-1918	£24.99
Home Alone 2	£19.99
Horrondest Fleet	£28.99
I-N-C-A 2	£27.99
Indy Car	£27.99
Indy Fate of Atlantis Act	£18.99
Indy Fate of Atlantis Adv-	£24.99
Innocent Until Caught	£23.99
International Rugby Challenge	£19.99
International Sports Challenge	£21.99
Ishar	£17.99
Jack The Ripper	£27.99
Jet Strike	£16.99
Jetfighter 2	£30.99
Jimmy White's Whirlwind Snooker	£19.99
John Madden 2	£18.99
Kasparov's Gambit	£28.99
KGB	£22.99
Kids Rule OK	£9.99
King Maker	£24.99
Kings Quest 6	£30.99
Krusty's Funhouse	£19.99
Kyrandia 2	£22.99
Lambourghini	£19.99
Larry 5 VGA	£25.95
Laser Squad	£20.99
Leather Goddess 2	£21.99
Legacy of Sorasil	£22.99
Legend	£20.99
Legend of Kyrandia VGA	£21.99
Legend of Myra	£18.99
Leisuresuit Larry 6	£27.99
Light Ball Deluxe Pinball	£22.99
Links	£24.99
Links Banff Springs (SVGA)	£15.99
Links Barton Greek (VGA)	£13.99
Links Bayhill	£13.99
Links Hyatt	£13.99
Links Kapaha	£15.99
Links Mouna Key (SVGA)	£15.99
Links Pine Hurst	£13.99
Links The Belfrey (SVGA)	£15.99
Links Troon North (VGA)	£13.99
Litil Divil	£25.99
Lords of Power	£25.99
Lost in Time	£27.99

TOP 50 TITLES

Alien Breed 2	£19.99
Alone in the Dark + Jack	£27.99
Award Winners 2	£22.99
B- Wing	£13.99
Champion Manager 94 Addition	£6.99
Championship Manager 93	£19.99
Combat Classics 2	£22.99
Cyberworlds	£17.99
Darksun	£28.99
Day of the Tentacle	£27.99
Eye of the Beholder Trilogy	£27.99
Fields of Glory	£27.99
Flashback	£24.99
Flight Simulator v5	£25.99
Football Pro	£25.99
Frontier (Elite 2)	£24.99
Gabriel Knight	£25.99
Goal	£19.99
Grand Prix	£28.99
Hand of Fate	£25.99
Imperial Pursuit	£12.99
Jurassic Park	£22.99
Lands of Lore	£22.99
Lemmings 2	£12.99
Links 386 Pro	£29.99
Links Belfry	£15.99
Links Firestone VGA	£15.99
Lords of Power	£25.99
Magic Boy	£16.99
Monkey Isle 2	£22.99
Mortal Kombat	£21.99
Pinball Dreams	£22.99
Pinball Fantasies	£24.99
Police Quest 4 - Open	£25.99
Premier Manager 2	£12.99
Privateer	£29.99
Quest and Fun	£19.99
Rally	£22.99
Return to Zork	£29.99
Scrabble	£19.99
Sensible Soccer 92/93	£21.99
Sim City 2000	£25.99
Simon The Sorcerer	£25.99
Sink or Swim	£19.99
Space Legends	£22.99
Strike Commander	£26.99
Striker	£19.99
Tornado	£26.99
Turning Points	£22.99
Ultimate Underworld 2	£25.99

BLANK DISKS
20 @ £11·00
50 @ £20·00
100 @ £33·00
250 @ £73·00
Prices are for UK mainland only
Prices inc P&P

Doom £22.99

Frontier (Elite 2) £24·99

BENEATH STEEL SKY £21·99

Ultima 8 £26·99

X-Wing £27·99

DIRECT SPECIAL BARGAINS

Brutal Sports Football	£9.99
Buzz Aldrin to Space	£12.99
Cyberrace	£14.99
Dvorak Teaches Typing	£7.99
Horror Zombies	£7.99
Kings Quest 5 (Bundle)	£12.99
Legacy	£12.99
Legends of Valour	£9.99
Lemmings	£7.99
Lemmings 2	£12.99
Life & Death 2 (Bundle)	£7.99
Mavis Beacon Teaches Typing	£7.99
Moonshine	£7.99
Premier Manager 2	£12.99
Police Quest 3	£10.99
Robin Hood	£9.99
Special Forces	£9.99
Space Quest 1	£9.99
Strike 2	£7.99
Thunderstrike	£7.99
Titus the Fox	£9.99
Wing Commander (Bundle)	£9.99
Zool	£9.99

PC TITLES

Lotus 3	£19.99
Lucky's Casino	£27.99
M1 Tank Platoon	£21.99
Maelstrom	£25.99
Man United Premier Champ	£19.99
Mario is Missing	£25.99
Mario's Time Machine	£27.99
Master of Orion	£27.99
Match of the Day	£19.99
Mean Arenas	£19.99
Mercenaries	£19.99
Merchant Prince	£27.99
Michael Jordan in Flight	£22.99
Mickey 123	£23.99
Micro Machines	£19.99
Microprose F1 Grand Prix	£25.99
Microprose Golf (David Leadbetters)	£16.99
Millenium Return VGA	£21.99
Mobi's Spelling Tricks	£21.99
Mojos Monster Maths	£21.99
Mortal Kombat	£21.99
My First World Atlas	£22.99
Network Q RAC Rally	£22.99
New York Scenery	£15.99
NFL Coaches Club Football	£25.99
Nick Faldo Golf	£19.99
Nick Faldo's Champ Golf	£25.99
Nick Faldo's Open	£25.99
Nigel Mansell's World Champ	£19.99
Noddy's Big Adventure	£19.99
Noddy's Playtime	£19.99
Nova 9	£15.00
Omar Sharif's Bridge	£21.99
Oregamo	£27.99
Overdrive	£19.99
PGA Golf + Course (Windows)	£23.99
PGA Golf + Courses	£21.99
PGA Plus	£25.99
Pacific Islands (T- Yankee 2)	£21.99
Pacific Strike	£28.19
Pacific Strike Speech Acc-Pk	£12.99
Pacific Worlds	£23.99
Patriot	£19.99
Perfect General	£21.99
Perfect General 2	£21.99
Perfect General Scenario Disk	£13.99
Perfect Trilogy	£27.99
Pirates of Gold	£22.99
Populous & Promised Lands	£10.99
Populous 2+	£25.99
Populous II	£25.99
Power Tactics	£19.99
Powergame 2	£22.99
Powermonger	£11.99
Prehistorik 2	£16.99
Prince of Persia	£10.99
Prince of Persia 2	£25.99
Private Righteous Fire	£12.99
Privateer Special Op 2	£25.99
Quest for Glory 2	£15.00
Quest for Glory 4	£25.99
Ragnarock	£24.99
Rags to Riches	£25.99
Railroad Tycoon	£12.99
Railroad Tycoon Deluxe	£26.99
Reach for the Skies	£23.99
Ready Set Read	£21.99
Red Baron VGA	£24.99
Red Crystal	£27.99
Rex Nolatior	£12.99
Rise of the Robots S-V-G-A	£27.99
Rise of the Robots V-G-A	£29.99
Robocod	£6.99
Robosport (Windows)	£17.99
Roger Rabbit (Hare Raising Havoc)	£19.99
Rules of Engagement 2	£28.99
Rome AD92	£22.99
Rugby League	£19.99
Ryder Cup	£19.99
Sabre Team	£22.99
Sam & Max	£27.99
Sam & Max Hit the Road	£27.99
San Francisco	£22.99
Scooters Magic Castle	£22.99
Seal Team	£22.99
Seawolf	£28.99
Settlers	£25.99
Shadow Caster	£27.99
Shadow President	£25.99
Shadow Worlds	£21.99
Shadow of the Comet	£22.99
Shuttle	£19.99
Sid & Als Incredible Machine	£25.99
Sid & Als Incredible Toons	£25.99
Silent Service 2	£12.99
Silver Ball	£19.99
Sim Ant	£21.99
Sim City Deluxe	£21.99
Sim City/Lemmings	£19.99
Sim City/Populous	£19.99
Sim Earth	£13.99
Sim Earth (Windows)	£19.99
Sim Life	£19.99
Simpsons	£16.99
Slater and Charlie	£22.99
Sleepwalker	£22.99
Snaparazi	£12.99
Soccer Stars Compilation	£16.99
Solitaires Journey	£28.99
Space Crusade	£17.99
Space Quest III	£25.99
Space Quest IV	£23.99
Space Quest V	£23.99
Space Quest Trilogy	£33.00
Spear of Destiny	£23.99
Speed Racer	£25.99
Spelljammer	£24.99
Sports Masters	£21.99
Starwars Chess	£29.99
Star Control 2	£26.99
Star Reach	£25.99
Street Fighter 2	£19.99
Star Trek 2 Last Rites	£25.99
Star Trek 25th Anniversary	£24.99
Starlord	£27.99
Strategy Masters	£21.99
Strike Squad	£24.99
Strike Tactical Grid	£12.75
Stronger Hold	£22.99
Stunt Island	£27.99
Suburban Commando	£15.99
Subwars 2050	£27.99
Super League Manager	£19.99
Super Tetris	£9.99
Super VGA Harrier	£27.99
Survival	£25.99
Suzuki GP Win Run 2	£19.99
T.F.X	£22.99
Tactical Manager (Eng)	£22.99
Tactical Manager (Italy)	£22.99
Tactical Manager (Germany)	£22.99
Tracksuit Manager 94	£15.99
Traps and Treasure	£19.99
T-V- Boxing	£9.99
Task Force 1942	£25.99
Tegel's Mercenaries	£23.99
Terminator 2 - The Arcade Game	£19.99
Terminator Rampage	£21.99
Tesserae	£19.99
The Blue & Grey	£25.99
The Complete Chess System	£21.99
The Incredible Machine	£26.99
Theatre of War	£22.99
Things to do with Words	£9.99
Tim Robot	£25.99
Tim Toons	£25.99
Total Carnage	£17.99
Transarctica	£32.99
Triple Actions	£16.99
Troddlers	£19.99
Trolls	£16.99
U-F-O-	£28.99
U96	£29.99
UMS Compilation	£28.99
Ultima 7 (The Black Gate)	£23.99
Ultima 7 (The Serpent Isle)	£25.99
Ultima Trilogy 2	£24.99
Ultima VIII	£26.99
Ultima VIII SAP	£12.99
Ultimate Pinball	£19.99
Unnecessary Roughness	£25.99
Utopia	£20.99
V for Victory 1 (Utah Beach)	£23.99
V for Victory 2 (Russian Front)	£21.99
V for Victory 3 (Market Garden)	£25.99
V for Victory 4	£28.99
VHL Hockey	£28.99
Valhalla	£21.99
Veil of Darkness	£21.99
Victory at Sea	£28.99
Virtual Worlds	£25.99
WWF 2	£19.99
War in the Gulf	£19.99
Ween	£21.99
Whale's Voyage	£14.99
Wing Commander 2	£26.99
Wing Commander 2 Special Ops 1	£9.99
Wing Commander ACA	£22.99
World Atlas 4-0	£32.99
World War 2 Battles of South	£27.99
X-Wing	£27.99
Xanth	£25.99
Xenobots	£25.99
Zool 2	£16.99

✱ FREE ✱ WHEN YOU SPEND £50 OR MORE ON PC3.5 OR CD ROM GAMES YOU RECEIVE A ZOOL (While stocks last only) ✱ FREE ✱

CD ROM TITLES

7th Guest	£25.99
A320 Airbus	£22.99
A320 Airbus USA	£22.99
Advantage Tennis	£19.99
Alone in The Dark & Jack	£28.99
Animals In Motion	£9.99
Battle Chess	£28.99
Battles of Time	£19.99
Beneath a Steel Sky	£31.99
Betrayal at Krondor	£31.99
Big Green	£44.99
Campaign	£25.99
Campaign 2	£24.99
Castles 2	£31.99
Challenge Pack	£25.99
Commanche Maxover	£27.99
Conspiracy	£28.99
Cyberrace	£27.99
Cyber Worlds	£17.99
Day of the Tentacle	£26.49
Dracula Unleashed	£31.99
Dragonsphere	£25.99
Dune	£28.99
Eye of the Beholder Trilogy	£29.99
Fabulous Fuzzbox	£31.99
Flat Fighter	£9.99
Football Crazy	£16.99
Frankenstein	£15.99
Gabriel Knight	£28.99
Gateway 2	£22.99
Goblins 3	£31.99
Green Disk MPC	£49.99
Hi Tech Aircraft	£38.99
Hound of the Baskervilles	£9.99
Inca 2	£35.99
Indi Jones	£29.99
Inferno	£31.99
International Soccer	£9.99
Iron Helix	£25.99
Jack The Ripper	£27.99
Journeyman	£25.99
Jurassic Park	£25.99
King Quest 6	£30.99
Labwinth of Time	£25.99
Lands of Lore	£28.99
Lawnmower Man	£32.99
Leisure Suit Larry 6	£27.99
Lemmings 1 & 2	£19.99
Little Divil	£25.99
Lord of the Rings	£27.99
Lost Treasures of Infocom	£19.99
Lost in Time	£27.99
Lowers Guide	£25.99
Man United Premier Champ	£19.99
Mario is Missing Deluxe	£28.99
Match of the Day	£19.99
Microcosm	£31.99
Myst (windows)	£31.99
Nick Faldo's Golf	£25.99
Oceans Below	£25.99
Police Quest 4	£28.99
Psycho Killer	£9.99
Rebel Assault	£29.99
Return To Zork	£31.99
Ryder Cup	£22.99
Quest and Fun	£19.99
Quest for Glory 4	£28.99
Sam & Max	£29.99
Shadow of Comet	£26.99
Shadow Caster	£31.99
Sim City	£31.99
Space MPC	£25.99
Star Trek 25th Anniversary	£25.99
Star Wars Chess	£38.99
Strike Commander	£31.99
Subwar 2050	£31.99
TFX	£29.99
Tornado	£26.99
Total Carnage	£18.99
Town with no Name	£9.99
Turning Points	£22.99
UMS Compilation	£27.99
Ultima 7 Complete	£28.99
Ultima 8 Sap	£13.99
Winter Olympics	£27.99
Wolfpack	£26.99
Women in Motion	£9.99

WE WILL MATCH PRICES!! "NEVER BEEN BEATEN" TRY US

Please charge my Access/Visa No: ☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐ Expiry Date: ☐☐/☐☐

ORDER FORM

VISA MasterCard Access

Please supply me with the following for

Computer .....

TITLES	PRICE
POST + PACKAGING	
TOTAL	

CUSTOMER NUMBER

DATE: .....

NAME: .....

ADDRESS: .....

.....

.....POST CODE: .....

TEL: .....

PC FORMAT JUNE 1994

Please make cheques and P.O payable to:-

DIRECT SOFTWARE LTD,
DEPARTMENT PCF06SC,
UNIT 3, CROSSKEYS
SHOPPING MALL,
ST NEOTS,
CAMBRIDGESHIRE PE19
2AU.

POST & PACKING:
UK mainland FREE,
EEC £3.00 per item, Non EEC
£4.50 per item.

All parcels are sent out by recorded delivery.
All items subject to availability. All prices subject to change without notice. E&OE.

Please note:
Some games may not be released at time of going to press.
Please allow for cheque clearance.

PD SELECTIONS

Cheques payable to PD Selections Ltd
Please add £1 for UK delivery, £4 overseas.

Many of the programs listed are shareware. These require a separate payment to the author if you continue to use them.

THE BEST AND LATEST IN SHAREWARE

THE WHITE HOUSE, CLIFTON MARINE PARADE, GRAVESEND, KENT DA11 0DY

DISK PRICES: £2·25 EACH, 6 DISKS £12, 12 DISKS £21, 20 DISKS £30
(NUMBER OF DISKS IN BRACKETS IF MORE THAN ONE)

REGISTERED VERSIONS		GOLD MEDAL CD APRIL 1994	
DOOM	£30	ALL NEW SHAREWARE	£19
WOLFENSTEIN 60 LEV	£20	SILVER COLL GAMES CD	£19
BLAKE STONE 66 LEV	£34	SILVER WINDOWS & MUSIC	£19
EPIC PINBALL	£30	CLIPART HEAVEN CD	£14
SPEAR OF DESTINY	£30	GIF GALAXY II CD	£14
DUKE NUKEM 2	£25	HOT SOUND & VISION CD	£19
RAPTOR	£23	TOO MANY TYPEFONTS CD	£14
HALLOWEEN HARRY	£23	WALKTHRU & FLYBY CD	£25
EDUCATIONAL ATLAS	£15		
CORRIDOR 7 – NEW WOLF ENHANCED GFX ETC	£20	HD DISKS	60P each

LATEST GAMES

DOOM 3D(2) – Best shareware game ever, from id Software. Realistic virtual reality wargame, rated over 90% by every magazine. 4Mb RAM 386.
DOOM EXTRAS – We're first as usual – cheats, maps and other bits on the world's best game.
RAPTOR (2) – New from Apogee. The best shoot em up game ever on the PC. Almost as good as Doom!! 3Mb RAM.
MERCENARY 2029(2) – New from Apogee. Call for full details.
JAZZ JACK RABBIT (2) – Superb new Epic game – even better than that well known blue hedgehog.
ONE MUST FALL (2) – The best street fighting game on the PC – by Epic Megagames.
SPECTRUM EMULATOR (2) – Emulate all your old favourites from the Sinclair Spectrum with games.
BLAKE STONE ALIENS OF GOLD(2) – New Apogee game written with the Wolfenstein engine. Excellent.
BLAKE STONE & DUKE NUKEM 2 EXTRAS – Cheats and maps for Apogee's 2 latest games.
HALLOWEEN HARRY(2) – Brilliant new platform game by Apogee with cinematic animations and jetpack
DUKE NUKEM 2 (2) – Much improved follow up to Apogee's most popular platform game. Brilliant
EPIC PINBALL (2) – The ultimate pinball game – one of the best games in shareware. Very high reviews.
WOLFENSTEIN HINT BOOK – Maps and hints for all sixty levels at a special offer price of only £8·00.
SIM SPACE (2) – Spaceship flight and combat sim with 50 missions. Very highly rated.
ARMIES OF STEEL – Fast paced, easy to play strategic war game. needs 2mb RAM and SVGA graphics
VGA PLANETS – Graphical multiplayer space combat
RANGER FOX – Good Korean horizontal shoot 'em up
INVASION OF THE MUTANT SPACE BATS OF DOOM – superb title, good game – vertical shoot em up
SHAREWARE GAMES CHEATS – Wolf, Keens, Cosmo, Epic Pinball, Kiloblaster, Jill Hugo 1,2,3 solutions
COMMERCIAL GAMES CHEATS – Tentacle, Larry, loads of others
COMBAT ZONE – Good new strategic war game. 2Mb
ELECTRO MAN – NEW from Epic – platform game with real digitised speech. Very impressive.
HEARTLIKE PC – Good Boulderdash type puzzle game from Epic Megagames
XARGON – NEW from Epic. Follow up to Jungle Jill.
PICKLE WARS – Good new platform game by Karen Crowther - author of Word & Maths Rescue.
BODY COUNT (2) – The best street fighting game.
GAMEBUILDER LITE – Design your own graphic adventures professionally with sound
GATEWORLD – Fab game like Apogee's D Nukem
JASON STORM in **SPACE CHASE** – One of 93's best.
LAMERS – Shoot, bomb & landmine the lemmings.
CLYDE'S ADVENTURE – Brill like Duke Nukern.
DUNGEONS OF THE UNFORGIVEN – 3D monsters.
SPECULATOR – Real estate simulator in the style of Sim City.
CAVERNS – Superb Boulderdash game.
REDHOOK'S REVENGE – Superb animated piratès.
STELLAR DEFENSE II – Brill Scrolling arcade game.
6 CARD GAMES – Bridge, Poker, Patience, Rummy.
SQUAREZ – Best ever Tetris type game with bombs.
WORLD CUP CRICKET – Cricket game simulation.
NIGHT RAID – Excellent new arcade game.
ELECTRO BODY – Top quality speaking platformer.
ELF LAND – Like Apogee's Commander Kleen
MOREJJONG – new monster mahjong

APOGEE GAMES

BIO MENACE – Great new game from Apogee
JOHNNY DASH in MONSTER BASH – New Apogee
SPEAR OF DESTINY – Follow up to Wolfenstein.
WOLFENSTEIN 3D – Virtual reality, shoot the Nazis.
WOLFENSTEIN EXTRAS – Maps, cheats, pacmen.
CATACOMB ABYSS 3D – 3D Fantasy adventure.
COSMO'S COSMIC ADVENTURES – Best platformer.
MAJOR STRYKER – Excellent parallax shoot-em up.
KEEN DREAMS – Latest Keen platform game.
COMMANDER KEEN 6 – Aliens ate my babysitter.
COMMANDER KEEN 4 – Goodbye Galaxy best Keen.
DUKE NUKEM & PAGANITZU – 2 greats on one disk.
REDUKE – 12 extra levels for Duke Nukem
SECRET AGENT 006 & CRYSTAL CAVES – On one disk.

EPIC MEGAGAMES

ZONE 66 – 91% review in PC Format. Epic games
SOLAR WINDS – Strategic Space RPG by Epic
KEN'S LABYRINTH – Wolf 3D type game (2Mb RAM)
JILL OF THE JUNGLE – 16 level good platformer.
BRIX – 100 Levels of an excellent puzzle concept.
OVERKILL – Brilliant scrolling arcade game.

TRIVIA GAMES

These are all based on the popular pub quiz machines and are very well presented.
SPORTS TRIVIA
MOVIES TRIVIA
GENERAL TRIVIA
KIDS TRIVIA
AROUND THE WORLD TRIVIA

TOP GAMES

CD-MAN – Pacman enters the 90s Good grafx.
BIP BOP II – Addictive Arkanoid/Breakout game.
MONOPOLY – Good version of the top board game.
FORD SIMULATOR III – Car racing game.
PC PRO GOLF – Play a round of golf.
POWER CHESS – Top chess game.
CLASSIC PINBALL – V.good pinball simulator.
SHOOTING GALLERY – 7 shooting events.
GLOBAL WARFARE – Like the board game Risk.
MAHJONG – The original and the best.
SPACE FLIGHT SIMULATOR – Rocket Sim.
CADDIE HACK – 18 hole 3D golf game.
MARIO VGA – Collect coins, tip up tortoises.
LLAMATRON – Best shoot em up 100s levels.
XMAS LEMMINGS –Dressed as Santa Claus.
ZENTRIS – Best Tetris game.
1993TRIS – Updated Tetris variation
GALACTIX – Good 100 level shoot em up.

MUSIC DEMOS

UNTITLED – Best ever demo – by Dust with graphics similar to id Software's Doom.
GOOD BAD & THE UGLY – New Gravis demo.
INFERNO – New Gravis demo
PANIC – Brill Future Crew demo with gfx
UNREAL – 386+ top Future Crew demo
SECOND REALITY (2) – The ultimate demo from the Future Crew with unbelievable grafx. 4mb 486
ASSEMBLY 93 INTRO – New from Future Crew
WALKTHRUS & FLYBYS – new Future Crew
MENTAL SURGERY – Future Crew demo
CRYSTAL DREAMS 2 (2) – The world's second best demo – by Triton 2 Mb RAM, rated 10/10
CASCADA CRONLOGIA – Brilliant demo.
JANGLE (2) – Brill new demo 86% PC Format.
DIGITAL MATRIX – Large Legend Design demo.
INTRO 30 – Make your own intros & Demos.
MUSIKA FOR WINDOWS – Musical score editor which creates MIDI files.
DOOM VOCS – All the sounds ripped out of Doom
TETRA COMPOSITOR (2) – Superb new MOD file editor, player and sampler.
BLASTER MASTER 5·2. – Edit sound files.
DRUMBLASTER – Electronic drum machine.
GFMUSIC – 255 track prof MIDI sequencer.
SEQUENCER PLUS – Elaborate MIDI control.
TREKVOCS – 6 Star Trek VOC files.
MUSIC STYLES MIDI FILES – Blues, Drums, Reggae, Motown, New Wave, Rock.
MOD FILES (3 HD) – loads of MOD files
MIDI FILES (5) – Rock and pop MIDI files
SOUND EFFECTS VOC FILES – Car starting, breaking glass, nuclear explosion, barking, cannon firing, gun shot, water dripping, etc.
WINDOWS WAV FILES – Mainly sound efx.

WINDOWS

BUTTONFILE – Superb new database package.
JQCALC – Superb new spreadsheet prog
MULTILABEL – Avery laser label printer
WINSPELL – Spellchecker for Write
WYNDFIELDS – Relational database
PC PROJECT – Project management.
JAMWARE ICONS – nearly 2000 of them
TRUE TYPE FONTS – 140 fonts and installer £15
ADOBE TYPE FONTS – As above £15
RFFLOW – Flow chart maker
TOMMYSOFT CAD (2) – Brilliant CAD
GRAPHICS WORKSHOP 1·1 – Latest
DRAG & ZIP – Front end for PKZip, Arj
PAINT SHOP PRO – File converter/viewer
THE GREENS – NEW mini golf game.
MAHJONG – Windows version.
5 GAMES FOR WINDOWS inc Pacman.
BACKGAMMON & CHESS.
BRIDGE FOR WINDOWS – The card game.
CRIBBAGE & SLOT MACHINE
WINTREK – Star Trek game.

EDUCATION

GCSE MATHEMATICS – Calfacts.
GCSE PHYSICS – Multiple Choice.
GCSE SCIENCE – National curriculum.
GCSE COMPUTER STUDIES
GCSE SCIENCE FOR WINDOWS
GCSE MATHS FOR WINDOWS
WORD RESCUE – Best spelling educ game for 4-14 years. By Apogee.
MATHS RESCUE – Best maths educ game for 4-10 years. By Apogee.
HOORAY FOR HENRIETTA – Maths for 4-10 yrs.
HENRIETTA'S BOOK OF SPELLS.
SPELLBOUND – Spelling 4-10 yrs.
ANIMATED ALPHABET – For infants.
ANIMATED MATHS – For infants.
BERT'S DINOSAURS – Drawing fun.
PICTURE PUZZLE – Excellent jigsaw
ABC FUN KEYS – Pre school alphabet.
SENIOR PHYSICS FACTS – Age 15+
SAVE THE PLANET – Excellent.
FRENCH TUTOR – Learn French.
GERMAN TUTOR – Learn German.
SPANISH TUTOR – Learn Spanish
LANGTRANS – Good French Translator.
EDUCATIONAL ATLAS 1993 – Superb map & data program
ENGLISH TUTOR – Spelling, grammar, punctuation tutor & more
FRENCH WORD POWER – Teaches loads of new words.
WORD TRANSLATOR – German & Danish & Spanish, 1000s of words
PC TUTOR – All about computers.
PC FASTYPE VGA – Typing Tutor.

DBASE/SPREADSHEET

FILE EXPRESS – Powerful menu driven, Dbase with on-screen help
PC FILE 7 (2) – Report gen, charts & graphs, simple dbase.
EASY BASE II – Best & easiest database
AS EASY AS 5·5 – Top spreadsheet.
HOUSEHOLD REGISTER – Keep a list of contents for insurance.

BUSINESS/ACCOUNTS/WP

BREEZE – Top new WP
PAGE FINANCIAL CONTROLLER(2)
FREEWAY LEDGERMASTER (2)
FREEWAY PAYEMASTER (1) 1994 version
NOYES SIMPLE ACCOUNTS
NOYES ACCOUNTS v 2·0b
FORMGEN II – Superb form generator
625 BUSINESS LETTERS for your WP
MR LABEL – Top labelling package
PC WRITE ADVANCED LEVELv4 (2) – top WP from Quicksoft
WORD PERFECT 5·1 LEARNING SYSTEM
WOPR – macros for Microsoft Word
INTEXT – Multi lingual word processor for European and Russian languages
PAGE CHEQUEBOOK – Home accounts
KEYSHARE – Monitor share prices.

UTILITIES

MCAFFEES ANTI VIRUS – Latest version.
FILE COMPRESSORS – Arj, PKZip, LHARC
QUIK MENU 3 – Icon front end.
DISK TREE – Like XTree
MAGIC DESK – Top NEW front end with password protection on programs.
PHANTOM – Brilliant set of over 20 TSR screen savers from authors of Neopaint.
FORMAT QM & COPY QM – Quick multiple disk copying and formatting.
SCREEN THIEF – Screen capture program that captures any screen, even games.
FPROT – New version top virus protector.

GRAPHICS

AVAGIO – Good new shareware DTP
ENVISION PUBLISHER v 2·0 – New version of shareware's best DTP.
NEOPAINT v 2·1 – Best graphics prog.
NEOPAINT FONTS 1 – 20 extra fonts.
NEOPAINT FONTS 2 – 20 more fonts.
NEOSHOW – NEW Presentation maker.
NEOBOOK – Superb catalog/newsletter & book maker by Neosoft
GRAPHICS WORKSHOP for DOS.
DANCAD 3D(3) – Superb 3D CAD.
PROTOCAD – Very powerful CAD.
CHARTS UNLIMITED – Prod flow & all kinds of charts.
PC TRACE(2) – Circuit board design.
PADS PCB(3) – Professional PCB design.
CAL CONFUSION AND LIGHT – Fractal drawing from CGA to SVGA.
RECURSIVE REALM – Mandlebrot fractal generator.
FRACTINT v 18·1 – Fractal generator.
PRINT PARTNER – Make banners, cards, signs, etc.

RAYTRACING/MORPHING

PERSISTENCE OF VISION v2 (2) – New version of the best raytracing program.
POVCAD – Wire frame CAD add on
MORAY – Grid style editor for POVRAY
POV FILES – Lots of em on HD disk
DAVES TARGA ANIMATOR – Create animation from GIFs, TGAs etc
VIVID II RAYTRACER – Excellent
POLYRAY – Another good raytracer
D-MORPH v1.1.2 – Best GIF/TGA morphing
R-MORPH – Also a good morphing prog
TGA FILES (2) – Loads of em on HDs
FLI ANIMATIONS (3) – Loads of FLIs.

CLIP ART PCX & GIF

MOSSBURN FAMOUS FACES PCX – Mono
DINOSAURS & PREHISTORIC PCX – Colour
HOLIDAY SNAPS (2) – Xmas, Easter, Halloween, and many more mono PCX
COOPER CARTOONS (2) – 329 pics of your favourite cartoon characters Mono PCX
COOPER SET PCX (2) – 1800 various pics compressed – Mono
OFFICE IMAGES PCX FILES – Mono
MEDICAL PCX FILES – Colour
SOFTSCENE 3 PCX – Mono landscape & outdoor scenes top quality hand drawn
SCI FI PCXs – Quality Colour PCX
FAMOUS PEOPLE PCX – Colour
AVIATION CARS & SPACE PCX – Colour
CARTOONS COLOUR GIFs – Hand picked
STAR TREK & STAR WARS GIFs – Colour
DINOSAURS & PREHISTORIC GIF – Colour
SCI FI GIFs – hand picked colour GIFs
FAMOUS PEOPLE – Hand picked colour
AVIATION CARS & SPACE GIFs – Colour
CARTOONS COLOUR PCX – Hand picked
STAR TREK & STAR WARS PCX –Colour

HOBBIES/INTERESTS

CENTRAL LICENCEWARE TOTAL CONCEPT
SOLAR SYSTEM £5 – A superb hypertext style book on screen teaching loads about the Solar System with loads of top quality NASA pictures. Complete program.
NIGHT SKY (2) – Plots 24000 stars
ASTROMART – Produces astrological charts with planet positions
ASTRO (2) – Astral analysis
ASTRAL WINDOWS – Produces charts for any major town from 1800-2000
BROTHERS KEEPER V 5·1 (2) – Genealogy
TREES –Printed family tree diagrams
KITH 'N' KIN FOR WINDOWS – Superb genealogy Program.
FOOTBALL FORECAST – Win the pools
PUNTERS PAL – Horses prediction
THE MOVIES DATABASE – 4500 films
MEDPAS (3) – Medical reference
LANDSCAPE PLANT MANAGER
GARDENERS ASSISTANT
ORGANISE YOUR PLANTS/GARDEN
HOME PLAN – Create floor plans with furniture layout, etc.
FAMILY TREE JOURNAL – Make family history books.
ORGANISE RECORDS TAPES & CDs
ORGANISE YOUR BOOKS & MAGS
ORGANISE YOUR PHOTOS
COLLECT! – Collectors database
CLUB MEMBERSHIP SYSTEM
EDNA'S COOKBOOK – Recipe system.
FRED'S RECIPES (2) – 3500 for Ednas.

Access

PHONE: 0474 325802 FAX: 0474 320442

VISA

Shareware showcase



Get more for your money with our guide to the tastiest freeware and shareware programs on the menu. Paul Pettengale dips his finger into this month's shareware fondue. And gets burnt.

WHAT IS PD?

PD software is written by people who don't enforce copyright on their software, so it can be copied and distributed. A charge is normally made by PD libraries.

When you order or download **shareware** you're given around a month to try it out, after which you must register your copy and send a fee to the author. You often then receive manuals and extra facilities. You can copy and distribute shareware, but any copies should also be registered after the trial period.

Freeware is free, but the author retains copyright and asks you not to change the code.

You can get shareware or PD via **bulletin board systems** (BBSs). To access these you need a modem and comms software. Otherwise you can get in contact with PD and shareware **libraries** – see our list on page 140.

You can also get shareware on **CDs** each containing upwards of 600Mb of assorted programs. They cost about £30.

SHAREWARE CHOICE CUTS

RAPTOR: CALL OF THE SHADOWS

GAMES LEISURE

Shareware by Apogee Software
Registration fee £29.95
Available from Transend
Telephone 0274 622228

Game of the month...



Shoot-'em-up action like you've never seen before on the PC – unless you've played *Xenon*, that is.

WITH A NAME LIKE *RAPTOR* YOU could be forgiven for thinking, "Oh no, not another feeble dinosaur related game." Fortunately, *Raptor* is in fact a fast 'n' furious shoot-'em-up. The game is exactly the way shoot-'em-ups should be: no tedious plot or six-hour intro to wade through, you just get straight into the action with a sizzling soundtrack, delicious graphics and near-perfect playability.

***Raptor* is a vertically scrolling shoot-'em-up which pits you against the usual assortment of colourful opponents, both aerial and ground-based. You can upgrade your ship's weapons and defences by purchasing extras at the end of each stage, which are paid for using the cash you receive for killing your enemy. In addition to all that there are special weapons and cash bonuses available for destroying certain types of ship and ground installation.**

Under joystick control, the game feels just right, and this is not one of those games that rewards your every error with instant death – you are provided with a generous shield counter which gradually dwindles as you receive more hits, and can be replenished throughout the game.

***Raptor* supports all major soundcards and, with a decent one, the music is simply stunning, enhancing the atmosphere considerably. You're occasionally (most notably when you die) presented with small animated links from one section to another which are uniformly excellent and help bring the game to life. And this is just the single multi-level mission – the registered version provides you with two more considerably harder missions to plough through, and if they don't satisfy your trigger lust then nothing will.**

Minimum system: 1Mb; VGA; 386; hard disk (5Mb).
Optional extras: AdLib; Sound Blaster; joystick and mouse.

89%

ICEBREAKER

APPLICS UTILS Settings

Freeware by Pentagon
Available from PCIUG
Telephone 0732 771512

THE PC EXPLOSION HAS ENABLED just about anyone to publish their ramblings for the world to read and maybe even appreciate. This was initially via fanzines, facilitated by cheap printers and even cheaper desktop publishing packages. The current buzzword, however, is multimedia, a phrase which is used to mean the inclusion of text, pictures and even animation and sound into computerised presentations.

Numerous new commercial multimedia publications have come to light recently, but *Icebreaker* is different. It appears to be a magazine with schizophrenia, in that it can't decide whether it wants to be multimedia or traditional media. *Icebreaker* consists of a series of DTP pages saved in .CLP format so that, theoretically, they can be viewed via the clipboard (in Windows).

The problem is that the pages can't all be read from the clipboard, which means that to read them you need to import them into a word processor and print them out. To solve this, future issues of *Icebreaker* are to be displayed on screen using *Microsoft Powerpoint*, a multimedia display and authoring program. This will enable all of the pages to be viewed on screen, including any animations, full-colour graphics and even sound. And all this should make them more interactive and user-friendly.

But what about the content of the magazine? It describes itself as being for the "technophilic underground". Although this implies some kind of William Gibson, cyberpunk kind of content, it's not quite as leading-edge as it would like to be. The writing (most of which is by Andrew Clegg) is snappy, though a tad adolescent at times. The mag is a mixture of odd sci-fi and speculative fact and fiction pieces, interspersed with bizarre prose and eye-catching graphics. There are also software, music and video reviews. The first issue is in shades of grey, although subsequent issues will be in full colour.

Although it's not exactly revolutionary stuff, the mag does leave you feeling strangely satisfied, even though there weren't enough pages. Definitely one for the free thinkers among you...

Minimum system: 640K; VGA; hard disk (6Mb) and Windows 3.X.

77%



Hey, thanks for those little words of wisdom TS, suppose you're going to hit us with "You don't have to be mad to work here..." next, aren't you?

ELECTRONIC CV

Shareware by Bob Palmer
Registration fee £27
Available from PCIUG
Telephone 0732 771512

IN THESE TOUGH MODERN TIMES finding a job can be difficult, and you're often lucky if you even get as far as an interview. You can greatly increase your chances by presenting yourself in a professional or eye-catching manner. And what better way to do that than by providing your prospective employer with your CV on a disk ready to be slotted into a disk drive and viewed on a PC?

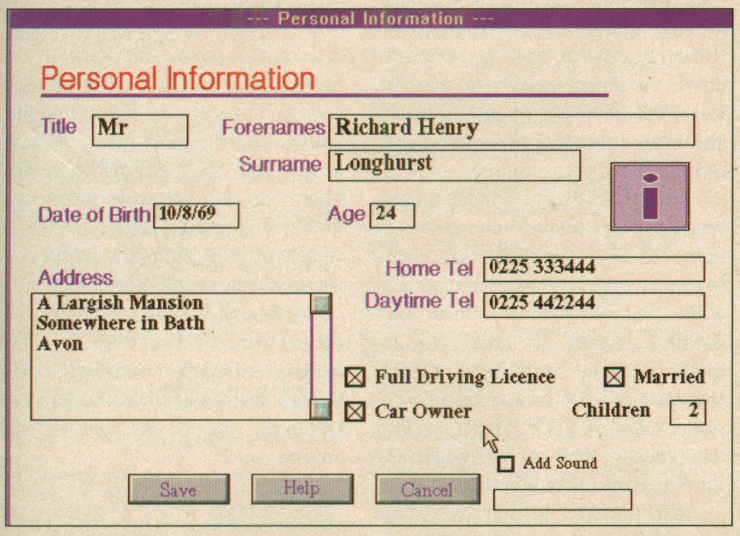
Electronic CV essentially consists of a database manager and a stand-alone viewing module. Once you've installed the program on to your hard drive, the database manager asks you to provide information under a variety of headings, ranging from your name and address, employment history and qualifications, to details about your hobbies and referees. As you fill in the various bits of information, you can even attach Sound Blaster .VOC or Windows 3.1 .WAV sound samples to certain actions. Fill in all the relevant sections, then select Quit to DOS and the program creates files (with a .CRD extension) which are then used to construct your computerised CV.

Once you've returned to DOS or Windows, these files need to be copied on to a separate disk, along with a couple of executables and other supplementary files. This disk is autobooting, and can be copied and distributed as often as needed. Hand it to your prospective employer, and he/she can browse through your CV on screen with a minimum of effort. And hopefully, the format of the presentation is likely to impress too, especially if the employer is not particularly computer literate.

One thing that will not impress your prospective employer is the large copyright notice which makes it quite clear that the version used is not registered. So remember, always register shareware.

Minimum system: 640K; VGA, 286; hard disk (1.5Mb). A soundcard is also required if you want to use .VOC or .WAV files. with *Electronic CV*.

75%

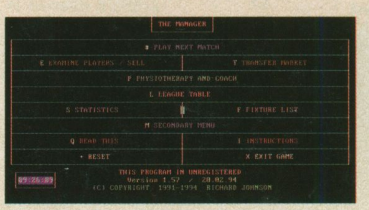


Have you got a job getting a job? Then smooth your passage into the world of employment with your PC and a handy shareware CV creator.

THE MANAGER

Shareware by Richard Johnson
Registration fee £15
Available from PCIUG
Telephone 0732 771512

FOOTY MANAGEMENT GAMES have been phenomenally successful of late, with people who would never consider a text adventure or any other strategy game queuing up six deep to manage their own clubs. Even the BBC has got in on the act with *Fantasy Football League*. Still, if the mere mention of football management gives you hot flushes and makes you go weak at the knees, perhaps *The Manager* is for you.



And that is about as exciting as *The Manager* gets. Interesting use of colours and a deep shade of black.

Designed to combat what its author sees as the growing trend for ridiculous levels of realism in football games, in which you have to get down to such inconsequential tasks as choosing your team's kit and arranging sponsorship deals, *The Manager* uses a simpler model for its playing algorithms. Nevertheless, a high level of detail has been included, with factors like physiotherapy and training included, to say nothing of the transfer market.

However, *The Manager* is a text-based game with no graphics on offer, and it is visually uninspiring. The shareware version of the game is restricted to one season, which should be more than enough to discover whether or not you like it. PCF

Minimum system: 512K; CGA; 286 and a hard disk (600K).

50%

WHERE TO GO

Here's a selection of shareware and PD libraries, along with bulletin board systems where you can download software. When you order shareware, tell the supplier that you heard about it in *PCF*. If you run a library and aren't on this list, then let us know.

PD LIBRARIES

AIM Computers ☎ 031 553 7997
Benetech Systems ☎ 0533 611231
CompuServe ☎ 0272 760681
Data Soft ☎ 031 556 5322
EC Software ☎ 0484 460070
Links PD & Shareware ☎ 0706 360676
Metric Computers ☎ 0705 827943
Nildram Software ☎ 0442 891331
Omicron Systems ☎ 0702 710391
PC Gold ☎ 0602 390973
PCIUG ☎ 0732 771512
PDSL ☎ 0892 663298
Programmers' Shareware Library ☎ 0254 871449
PSA ☎ 0223 208288
Red Dragon ☎ 0745 338094
Testware UK ☎ 0423 886415
Transend Services ☎ 0274 622228
Try-B4-U-Bi Shareware ☎ 0450 74604
Wiseowl Software ☎ 0235 529808

BBSs

After Hours ☎ 0785 228214
General shareware available.
Metric Computers ☎ 0705 871471
General shareware available.
Shareware Support ☎ 0442 891109
Specific advice on shareware programs.
Raytech ☎ 0862 88340
Specialises in raytracing and graphics.
Minerva London ☎ 081 6599191
Lots and lots of general shareware.
Minerva Scotland ☎ 0569 64300
Just like the London BBS.
Sound and Vision ☎ 0932 252323
Lots of shareware and the PCF mail area.

Inclusion in this list does not imply that the boards are recommended by *PCF*. Other BBSs exist – if you run one that you'd like put on the list, drop us a line and we'll check you out.

Oops

In our April issue (*PCF* 31) we reviewed a program called *PC-Pools*, which is available from Bay Computers. Unfortunately we printed the wrong telephone number – the correct number is ☎ 0524 831162 if you would like more information. Sorry.

APPLICATION OF THE MONTH

One of those dinky applications that can really make your life easier. No, really.

SMARTDOC R1.2

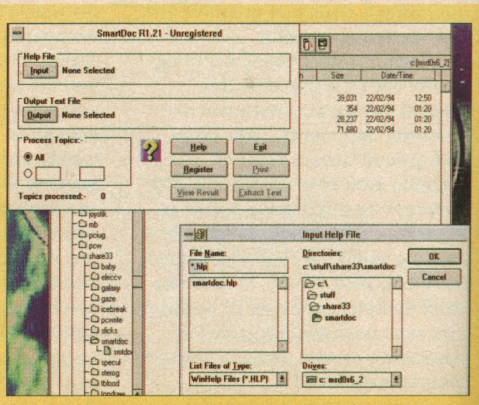
Shareware by Oakey Data Services
Registration fee £14.69
Available from PCIUG
Telephone 0732 771512

THE WINDOWS HELP-FILE FEATURE OFFERED by all Windows applications is a great boon. Whether you're using a £50 word processor or a £5,000 3D program, so long as you're in Windows you can click on the Help button for access to an itemised catalogue of program information.

However, perhaps you want a hard copy or maybe you want to extract just the textual portion of a help file. *SmartDoc* can load any specified Windows help file and save it as a document. You can ask it to strip away the graphics, leaving just the text, or you can tell the program to print a specified range of help file topics. If you choose this option each topic is printed with graphics as it appears on screen. Form feed instructions are inserted at the end of each topic to ensure new topics start on a fresh page. Although perhaps not destined to be the most widely-used program, *SmartDoc* is certainly useful and effective.

Minimum system: 640K; VGA; 286 and Windows.

85%



Well, what can we say about *SmartDoc* that its help files won't? Not much, really. You may not use it very often, but it's still extremely useful.

CUT, TICK & POST...CUT, TICK & POST...CUT, TICK & POST

MasterCard PD SOFT TELEPHONE HOTLINE'S (0702) 466933 FAX (0702) 617123 VISA
1 BRYANT AVENUE, SOUTHEND-ON-SEA, ESSEX, SS1 2YD

☐ PCV415 (2) **SPECTRUM EMULATOR** or ☐ PCH69

If you want to run your old spectrum software on a PC then this is for you. Remembver those's classic games from yester year. We have included a selection of converted games.

☐ **PCV477 . SPECTRUM GAMES**

Heres another four disks totaly Zipped upto the brim with loads of classic spectrum games (4) or PCH70 (2)

<DOOM>

☐ PCG400 (3) ☐ PCH53 (2)

☐ Lastest Registered version **£32.95** inc.

Doom is better than Wolfenstien the cellings and walls move in and out, explosions light up dark spaces, theres more Guns, Armour, Rockets, etc.

☐ **PCG410 ... DOOM 3D EXTRAS**
☐ **PCG447 ..... DOOM UPDATER**
☐ **PCH65 . DOOM 3D EXTRAS II**
☐ **I want info on new extra levels.**

CBM 64 EMULATOR

☐ PCV452 (2) ☐ PCH68

Updated for 1994 * Now contains full joystick surrort. Yes if you have a 386 or better PC you can now load, play and convert your Commodore 64 Games, Demos ect to work just as fast or faster than the original machine, includes sound and machine code operations. Recemended for all C64 users. (2)

Welcome to the NEW!! CD-ROM Section

We would like to introduce the best two Shareware CD-ROMs Money can buy.

☐ **CD7000 .. PDSOFT's GOLD CD**

How would you like to have every disk in our collection!! Yes Every disk all the disks contained within this advert and all the others within our range. Thats every PCG disk. Every PCV disk and Every PCH disk and thats not all you also get every clip art and True Type Font disk within our collection. Well over 1200 disks. Its also updated every simple day. Yes! EVERY DAY!!.....**£49.99**

☐ **CD18 ..... NIGHT OWL's 12** US-Bestseller. There is no other shareware CDROM in the world like Night Owls. 650Mb of the most recently released programs (all dated 1994), BBS Software, Business, Finance, CAD, Comms, Databases, DTP, DOS, Educational, File Compression, Fonts, Graphics, Games, OS/2, Programming in C, Pascal, Virus, Internet and Video, Windows etc.....**£29.99**

Requires 386+, Adlib+, 580K Free Mem. Mouse and a VGA or MCGA Monitor.

☐ ⊃☐ **PCG469 3DWORLD: VOYAGEUR IV & 3D PING PONG!** 3DWorld by Robert Burke: 2 Games in 1! Uses the incredible Tunnel VISION system! Voyageur IV & 3D Ping Pong. Download it today & feel the power!

☐ ⊃ **PCG470 ARIVA v4.3** This is a very challenging game requiring fast reflexes and the ability to think ahead, quickly. You guide a 'snake' through a field of randomly placed colored boxes to reach a target window at the top of the screen. This game has 25 UNLIMITED LEVELS which becomes very difficult by increasing your snake length and by increasing the number of 'action' boxes for you to hit.

☐ ⊃ **PCG471 BILLY THE KID v1.0** A 3D VGA Western Action Arcade Game. Many levels, 256 color scrolling action, Escape from prison, survive the New Mexico desert, rattle snakes, buffaloes, etc face deadly enemies, Apache warriors and Sheriff Pat Garrett's lethal six shooter. Req VGA, 286+

☐ **PCG472 HEAVY WATER JOGGER** You are Fred Fluke, jogger extraordinaire, and you've GOTTA find your way through the huge maze that is the plant - avoid the courtesy robots, jump the pits, avoid radiation sickness, keep from getting your ReeBuks wet, find the keycards, AND MORE. Req VGA

☐ ⊃ **PCG473 GRIDLOCK v2.0** lets you control traffic in a section of a city. You can decide what kinds of lights or stop signs to use and set the timing of the lights. The computer provides the traffic. You can program 2 test cars. See if you can avoid gridlock.

☐ **PCG474 TETRIFONY v2.03** is a pseudo vector graphics game, that is, it is an attempt to use only line drawings to make everything work. I used, as inspiration, an arcade video game I first encountered around 1984 as a student at SWTSU in San Marcos, Texas. I think you will find it fun and challenging.

☐ ⊃ **PCG475 1.0 THE JEWEL FACTORY** Addicting puzzle game. 256-colour graphics with digitized music and sound effects. Supports Sound Blaster & Pro, and joystick.

☐ **PCG476 NETHACK! v3.1** is a Dungeons and Dragons like game where you (the adventurer) descend to the depths of the dungeon in the search of the Amulet of Yendor (reputed to be hidden somewhere below the twentieth level). You are accompanied by a dog or cat that can help you in many ways and can be trained to do all sorts of things. Have fun and have lots of tricking!

☐ **PCG477 WILDLIFE TETRIS v1.0** is a Classic tetris type game in VGA 256 colours mode with Wildlife pictures in the background.

☐ **PCG478 DRAGONFIELD KEEP v1.0** A Game Module for AD&D Unlimited Adventures Travel to the distant land of Dragonfield Keep & defeat the evil army of the Dark Wizard! An RPG game on the ADVANCED level.

☐ **PCG479 SIR GUY GALLANT & THE DEADLY WARNING** is a mystery adventure game set in mid-17th century England. It takes place on the property of Gallant Hall. You take on the character of Sir Guy Gallant, a cavalier knight of that era. You must discover clues as to who killed your father, the late Sir James.

☐ **PCG480 $MART GAMBLER v1.5** Tired of losing? $mart Gambler is for people who play to win! The unique program that gives strategies for choosing the best casinos, money management, odds, improving luck and all of the popular games. Planning & reporting features show how to control your bankroll, analyze your play and best of all better your results.

☐ ⊃ **PCG481 ULTIMATE BLACKJACK v1.2** Is where a 256 Stack player has gone before, into the ULTIMATE zone! Enter a fully animated casino card game and gambling school. Set the number of decks, change casino rules, play with computer characters, learn card counting, etc.

☐ ⊃ **PCG482 ULTIMATE GRAND PRIX** Is where no Grin player has gone before, into the ULTIMATE zone! Enter a fully animated card game with 8 notorious players. Select your Gin variation and play with Hollywood scoring if desired. Set game scores and bonus amounts.

☐ **PCH49 . SANGO FIGHTER** Now about a fast paced, multi-level, Karate warrior game with loads of characters and each with his, her own special moves.

☐ ⊃ **PCH50 WOLFENSTIEN EXTRAS 3** How about another selection of Utilities, Maps, Levels, special effects for Wolf3d.

☐ ⊃ **PCH51 WOLFENSTEIN EXTRAS 4** How about another selection of Utilities, Maps, Levels, special effects for Wolf3D.

☐ ⊃ **PCH52 SPEAR OF DENISTY EXTRAS** How about another selection of Utilities, Maps, Levels, special effects for SOD.

☐ **PCH55 . THOR** is an Othello/Reversi game. It allows you to play against the computer or to use it as an Othello board. A complete set of functions for the study of the game is included.

☐ ⊃ **PCH58 JIGSAW 2 (WIN)** is an excellent jigsaw puzzle simulation for Windows 3.1. Puzzles are solved by dragging and dropping the pieces. Advanced puzzles will automatically snap together when properly arranged. The program can also find all the edge pieces and sort pieces by color. Puzzles can be saved in progress.

☐ **PCH62 RAPTOR** Call of The Shadows. Welcome to the BEST shoot-em-up ever made! A fast paced slugfest, with a pulse-pounding sound track, and jaw-dropping VGA animation & cinematics. Ultra-detailed, smooth scrolling VGA graphics, Upto 16 ship upgrades, weapons, Explosive cinematics, 27 killer levels, bosses, bonus and insane skill levels, & incredible soundtrack. Raptor sets the standards for other shoot-em'ups to ty and follow. (2)

MEGA DEMOS

All Demos require a sound Blaster, VGA Graphics, and a 386+ with 2Mb RAM unless otherwise stated. High Density. Please 50p to normal prices for PCH disks.

☐ ☐ PCH1 ..... 2nd REALITY (2)
☐ ☐ PCH3 .... UNREAL By Future Crew
☐ ☐ PCH4 ..... PANIC By Future Crew
☐ ☐ PCH5 ..... STAR By Future Crew
The Next Generation Animated Movie (2)
☐ ☐ PCH28 ..... OPTIC NERVE (Silents)
☐ ☐ PCH29 .... PHENOMENON [A. Force]
☐ ☐ PCH34 ..... REVERSED EVOLUTION 4m (2)
☐ ☐ PCH36 ..... VECTOR SHOCK
☐ ☐ PCH39 ..... ANGLE (2)
☐ ☐ PCH40 ..... VIRTUAL LEFTOVERS
☐ ☐ PCH41 ..... OUTBURST [BK]
☐ ☐ PCH42 ..... PSYCHNO NEUROSIS
☐ ☐ PCH43 ..... SAGADUST (2)
☐ ☐ PCH45 .. PARASYSE & PSIONICS
☐ ☐ PCH46 ..... SONIC DREAMS [Future Crew]
☐ ☐ PCH60 ..... SKINDEEP ANIM
Morphing effects like Terminator II
☐ ☐ PCH75 .. AGRESSIVA HARDCODE RAVE
☐ ☐ PCH76 ..... EVIL [DEFFUSION]
☐ ☐ PCH77 ARAB'S [Bountry Hunters]
☐ ☐ PCH78 .. SMASHED RABBIT [TRS]

CODE REFERENCES
> EGA or better req. ∑ 286 or better req.
+ 386 or better req. # 486 or better req.
* Hard Drive req. ~ 640K RAM req.

(DOS) UTILITIES

☐ **PCV81 TREES II** Has been designed to aid the genealogist so as to make his or her job as simple as pos. While requiring no great specialist knowledge.

☐ **PCV82 PASCAL TUTOR v2.40** If want to learn Pascal then try this disk.

☐ **PCV85 SKYGLOBE v3.1**

An educational astronomy program that contains over 7000 detailed stars etc.

☐ **PCV90 CV DISK v1.0** Well this programs's title gives the game away, Yes it will design your Curriculum Vitae.

☐ **PCV100 GRAPHICS WORKSHOP v7.0a** is a bitmapped graphic program that converts pictures from one format to another. It will handle most of the popular formats, MacPaint, GEM/IMG, PCX, GIF, TIFF, WPG, MSP, IFF/IBM, BMP, PIC, TGA, EPS, etc. (2)

☐ **PCV116 BRIGHTNESS KEEPER v5.1f** Trace your ancestors back through the history and create your very own family trees. Requires 512k+, HD (4)

☐ **PCV126 PRINT PARTNER v2.2** Allows you to make printed banners, signs, calendars, greeting cards & letterheads.

☐ **PCV139 GIF PICTURES** Contains Porche 944, Aat, Albert, Apollo10, Astrom, Auburn, autumn2, baseball, bather, Bird, Blast, Cars, Cheryl, Earring, Home and Pepsi.

☐ **PCV191 PCX SUPER TOOLS**

A complete, menu driven editing envoornment for PCX images.

☐ **PCV208 AQUARIUM** You'll never have to clean this tank out. Realistic Auuarium lets you control various types of fish. Can be used as a screen blanker.

☐ **PCV216 MARKET TIMER** Uses feeatures from daily newspapers to time your actions to ongoing trends.

☐ **PCV237 TYPING WORLD** Heres a fun way to improve your typing skills. Typing World has games and lessons designed to increase your skills.

☐ **PCV238 IMAGE GALLERY** From the creators of GWS, It lets you catalogue all your image files. Each image is shrunk down to display 20 images at the same time. Supports 14 different image formats.

☐ ⊃ **PCV326 SCREEN THIEF v1.56** Have you ever needed to capture a screen or graphics screen. Well that should be able to get it for you quickley, in either PCX, GIF or TIFF. It will even capture pictures from games.

☐ ⊃ * **PCV329 ENVISION PUBLISHER v1.54** is a full featured desktop publishing program. EVP is a powerful DTP program with graphical user interface, mouse support, scalable fonts, full object drawing

☐ *~⊃ **PCV342 NEOSHOW PRO** Lets you combine PCX and GIF format images into effective presentations. also req mouse.

☐ ⊃ * **PCV343 ARCHIVE MASTER** Do you perfer your art work to be more dimensional than what most paint programs give you. then play with realistic 3d objects. (2)

☐ ~* **PCV355 PHANTOMSCREEN v1.0** is a Dos based screen saver which not only works against screen burn in but protects your computer from unarthorized access.

☐ * **PCV409 CHART TAMER v2.0** Powerful & very easy to use chart creation prog. Create Bar, Pie, Area, Line, bitmap as a background, insert company logos, 3d custom bitmaps, colour control fill, patterns ect. (2)

☐ * **PCV454 SUPER KILLERS v1.1pc** This is the best collection of Virus killers on the shareware market contains Clean v1.08, Scan v1.08 both by McAfee, F-Prot v2.09d which is a complete virus and trojan protection package in itself, FxRepeat v3.10, MxRepair, NetShield v1.52 (3)

☐ *⊃ **PCV457 DEMO MAKERS** We have introduced a disk which can be used to make your own demo disks, Objects, ect. 3d Vector Engine v2.5, Everything you need to start coding, Composer 669 v1.3 Sound Card.

☐ **PCV518 WORLD ATLAS** More than 160 countries - The new european states issued from USSR and Yugoslavia, Nato, EEC ect.. Crossed sorting of all data - Pringing on lasers and dot matrax's, save maps as PCX files and you can up date the data files.

☐ **PCV464 HOROSCOPES** v3.0 Read astrology that is fun and easy to use. Input name, date, time and location and get accurate calculations of sky conditions for the time of birth. displays zodiac signs.

☐ **PCV466 HORSECALC v1.0** is a one-screen throughbred handicapping calculator with which you can get jockey's, Trainers, winning percentage, total number of races, wins, most recent beyer speed

☐ **PCV493 PERSIONAL C COMPILER v2.1c** PCC is a fully operational and tested C Compiler. PCC is a fast powerful C Compiler written for the 8088/8086

☐ **PCV494 GIF PICTURES 2-7** Heres another selection of stunning GIF pictures ziped on six dsdd disks **(6)**

☐ **PCV500 HEX EDITORs** Contains various HEX releated programs like HexEdit which is not only a hexadecimal viewer but an editor as well.

☐ **PCV511 CONFIG.SYS UTLs** is a set of programs which come very highly recommended. They are designed to make booting your computers system with different configurations and config.sys'tems.

☐ ⊃ * **PCV512 HARD DRIVE UTLs** Combi v1.13, You can specify the amount of extended memory for it and you get a RAM disk. DRIV-MAN v1.01, Gives a drive summary with graphs. CMFILER v5.36b is a disk/ file manager featuring side by side searches.

☐ **PCV513 HOME MANAGEMENT** has the means to record your daily transactions and create reports.

☐ **PCV514 JAPANESE TUTOR** If you feel the need to learn Japanese then now you can.

☐ **PCV515 LANGUAGE TUTOR** is a selection of programs which with the aim to teach various diferent languages such as French, German, Italian and Spainish.

☐ **PCV518 DIAGNOSTICs** Is a selection of five highly recommended programs to aim in fine tuning, reporting, displaying and repairing faults **(5)**

☐ **PCV523 BENCHMARKS** is a collection of utilities like, PCLAB, will give a detailed reports on your computers system

☐ **PCV527 UNPROTECT** Neverlock, which removes copy protection from over 180 games. DProtect, hard drive install version.

☐ **PCV532 FILE MAGICIAN v3.0** Light years ahead of any file Manager and WixZip, hundreads of configurable items and buttons.

☐ **PCV537 THE INFINITY MACHINE** Cheat death with the INFINITY MACHINE! No longer be hindered by limited amounts of ammo, lives, gold, money, etc. all which seem to run out to quickly. Now YOU make the rules! Works with virtually ANY PC game!!!

☐ **PCV538 SUPERSHOW IV** (formerly PCX-Show) SS4 will let you create a graphics presentations with PCX and GIF files.

☐ **PCV539 PARITY ANALYSIS (WIN) v1.5** is a sophisticated stock charting program for Windows 3.0x11. Over 50 indicators, MetaStack, ChartPro, Tele Chart 2000, and CSV ASCII file compatible. Imports/exports to Excel, Lotus, and text files. Req VGA. Fully functional shareware.

☐ **PCV541 MAGIC DESK** Toybox has grown up!! Magic Desk is the successor to our graphics'n'sounds program Toybox. We've made several enhancements and changed the name to reflect the fact that it's not "just for kids".

☐ **PCV543 DMORF v1.1** is a morphing program that runs in DOS graphics mode. It operates on TGA, GIF, and IMG files, and produces a bunch of TGA files as output. You can compile these TGA files using my other program, DTA, or dump 'em straight out to video if you've got the hardware.

☐ **PCV544 COMPLETE MORPH v2.00** Complete morphing facility. High-end tools for home users. Features include: read & write TGA/IMG/BMP/GIF/IPI; nice GUI; multiple spline types; advanced mesh editing tools; & more! Req 386DX+/4MB

☐ *~ **PCV547 NEOBOOK** is system for authoring disk-based, interactive newsletters, books, catalogs, educational materials, etc. Links to popular word processors, paint programs. Req EGA or VGA.

☐ *~ **PCV548 NEOBOOK PRO** authoring system for multimedia disk-based newsletters, books, catalogs, etc. req EGA

☐ **PCV549 DOOM MOD v1.10** Use Zip Mod with PKWARE's PKZIP to compress a series of MOD files into ZIP files and to include a FILE_ID.DIZ file that has the DOS file name of the MOD file as well as its track title.

☐ **PCV550 RECOVER IT BACK!**

DISK DRIVE CLEANER Safely and effectively removes debris from the delicate read/write heads of floppy disk drives. **COMEBACK v3.0:** The best undelete in the world. will recover with 100% accuracy any of the last 1000 files you have deleted or even OVERWRITTEN! No need to worry. **DRIVE PARK v1.01:** The "Accelerator!" Can increase the transfer rate on your IDE hard drive by up to 90%! Average increase = 30% faster! Device driver only takes up 3k! No computer should be without this!

☐ ⊃ **PCV553 CROSSWORD CREATOR v5.11** A great tool for teachers and trainers, great fun for students and trainees. This puzzle "editor" provides all the tools you need to quickly design and print your own

☐ **PCV554 EZ-TREE v2.1** is a genealogy program to track and report on family trees. records are limited only by disk space & fields. You can keep track of up to 16 marriages per person and up to 32 children per marriage. No logical limit to the number of neneration you can have for each tree.

☐ **PCV555 FANTASY FOOTBALL LEAGUE MANAGER 3.3** will provide you with everything you need to maintain a Fantasy Football League. It is completely menu driven, and most of the menu items should already be familiar to you.

☐ **PCV556 MACSEE v3.2** is a powerful utility that allows a standard PC to read/write Macintosh disks. This include 3.5" high density Macintosh disks, CD-ROMs, and Macintosh formatted hard drives (e.g. SyQuest removables). MacSEE gives access to the complete Macintosh file system.

☐ **PCV557 SPELMATE** (DOS) Spell Checker . Spelmate allows developers to add spell checking capabilities to Windows.

☐ **PCV558 UNIVERSAL GAME EDITOR v1.0** Change many aspects of your favorite games. Allows you to edit almost any game that lets you save your game.

☐ **PCV559 PKZIP FILE COMPRESSION MANAGER** for PKZ204g. It is designed to work with the PKWare file compression system programs PKZIP.EXE, PKUNZIP.EXE, ZIP2EXE, and PKZIPFIX.EXE.

☐ **PCV561 SPELLING MASTER v1.3** is a specialised database aimed at players, scorers and general enthusiasts of league and first class cricket. By BETTERBYTES.

☐ **PCV563 ACNET v3.2** analyses electronic circuits containing both active and passive components. It provides detailed dc and ac analysis, input and output impedances at any given frequency. Comprehensive graph plotting facilities.

☐ **PPCV564 NEVERLOCK** Remove annoying copy-protection from 100 's of popular games. NeverLock solves your problem correctly every time.

☐ **PCV565 NESPASS v1.0** A full featured password security program for your personal computer. Complete with virtually UNBREAKABLE coding, a user friendly interface, SOUND CARD SUPPORT, and snazzy blinking graphics! Your secrets will be unusual but desperately needed software!

☐ **PCV566 NEOPAINT v2.2** Complete image editing/paint program for DOS! Includes powerful features until now found only in programs costing much more. Reads/writes 2,16,&256 color PCX, GIF, TIFF file formats. Displays @ up to 1024x768. Drivers for 300+ printers. Easy to use. Requires: DOS 3.1+; 640K +; Hard disk; mouse; mono to SVGA monitors.

☐ **PCH66 STARWRITER v6.0 LITE (2)** Word Processor which contains all the advanced features expected in a Top-Quality product and already has over 300,000 registered users in Europe. Lightning fast work in both text and graphic mode makes StarWriter the best text processor for any application. Support for over 300 printers. Import and Export of text formats. Over 40 Scaleable fonts. Spell checking, thesaurus and hyphenation for US English. Direct Faxing From Screen. Logbook. Headers and Footers. Password Protection and more.

☐ **PCH72 EXECUTOR v1.1** is a Macintosh (Macintosh is a registered trademark of Apple Computer, Inc.) emulator for the PC. Executor can read and write Macintosh formatted HD (1.4 Mb) floppies as well as run Macintosh programs. A 386 or better with 4 Mb RAM, a VGA monitor and a mouse is needed to run. The first Shareware Apple MAC emulator on your IBM PC. **(3)**

WINDOWS SOFTWARE

☐ **PCV186 PAINT SHOP PRO v1.02** You can display, convert, alter & print images plus screen capture utility. supports almost all formats PCX, GIF, TIFF, MAC, TGA, WPG

☐ **PCV187 GRAPHICS WORKSHOP v7.0a** as PCV100 but for Microsoft Windows.

☐ **PCV192 1,100 ICONS** A huge selection of window icons for you to use as they are or edit them as to suit your own needs and software titles. **(2)**

☐ **PCV298 ICON MASTER v1.2** Heres an award winning utility for Windows that you can use to manage and edit your icons. Supports 16 icon file formats

☐ **PCV354 WINCOVER v3.0** will supercharge your cover sheets with some of the best artwork there is.

☐ **PCV358 FONT MONSTER** A True Type & PostScript font multi utility. Rename any font, edit other miscellaneous data. Preview fonts before installation. WIN 3.1

☐ **PCV427 SKY MAP v1.3** Is the latest release of what will become the finest astronomy program on the IBM. **(3)**

☐ **PCV481 TOP LOADER v1.0** Powerful object drawing program which is easy to use for desktop publishing. **(2)**

☐ ⊃∑ **PCV483 CROSSREC v3.2** is a professional record archive which caters for all your needs professional & private record collectors a like.

☐ **PCV487 TOP LOADER MASTER v5.9** The best VOC file editor for the sound blaster (Pro). many special features FX-Echo, Fade, Reverse, Mix, Remove, Vocals, looping ect.

☐ **PCV492 SOUND UTLs** is a tool designed for modifying & editing windows 3.1 WAV files. Also contains a set of WAV files.

☐ **PCV501 WINDOWS SUPPLEMENT LIBRARY** contain device drivers for printers, displays, networks, mouse drivers and keyboards. these drivers allow the devices to run within the windows envoor. **(6)**

☐ **PCV525 DIAGNOSTICS** see for WIN PCV518 for a better description.

☐ ⊃∑ **PCV542 KITH & KIN v2.01 (WIN)** Genealogy program which has an easy to use graphical interface & powerful editing tools. Pictures, diagrams, sounds, etc may be entered on a family or linked to a person or family. A printed book can be produced with family group details and a cross-referenced index. Also prints descendant and ancestral trees. Req Win 3.1, mouse.

☐ **PCV545 MICROPLAYERCD v1.01** an Audio CD Player for Windows. It features a fully re- sizable control panel that can be very small and stay on top of other windows, a full- featured Disc Catalog database, Track/Disc Name display, Volume control.

☐ **PCV546 WINALARM** A single popup reminder utility for Windows. Type your own reminder message and WinAlarm will pop it up over any Windows app at the time you specify. Will also pop up wherever you want it to, alerting you with a flashing message bar, beeps and a colorful screen. Requires VBRUN200.DLL. See PCV360.

☐ **PCV552 CARDSWORKSHOP v1.0** is a integrated editor compiler/player allowing the quick design and play of solitary card games. A good number of examples are included.

☐ **PCV562 JQCALC v1.0 (WIN)** A full featured Spreadsheet. All the standard math functions. Features include: COPY, PASTE, Column and Row insert & delete, Auto Sum, Context Help among a host of other features.

GAMES

☐ *~ **PCG41 CATACOMB ABYSS** o captivating game of wizards, magic, undead monsters ect. Heres some of the best graphics, animation & Wolfenstien game play. shoot undead not Germans. **(2)**

☐ c **PCG44 GRAND PRIX SIM** Formular One team management game which you can build up your own team.

☐ c **PCG50 JILL OF THE JUNGLE** You control Jill in this stunning platform game which leads you through 16 gigantic levels.

☐ *⊃~ **PCG58 ANCIENTS 1: DEATH WATCH** a fantasy RPG with 3d graphics, similar to ELOB. Supporting roles and sound.

☐ c **PCG60 BIG THREE** WWII strategy with detailed maps & excellent graphics to help control the action from the fjords of Norway to the sands of Egypt.

☐ *~ **PCG72 MORAFF'S WORLD IV** is of awesome fantasy role playing game that will keep you hacking and slashing monsters night after night. sicteen levels.

☐ **PCG78 JOUST** The arcade classic with wings, lances and multi levels.

☐ c **PCG92 SOCCER** Try your skill at becoming a successful manager of world class football team. You select the players.

☐ ⊃ **PCG101 COMMANDER KEEN 4:** Billy Blaze is out to discover "The Secret of the Oracle" (2). CGA version on PCG103 (2)

☐ c **PCG120 JET FIGHTER SIMULATOR** at home you can now be in control of all the speed & firepower of F18 CGA+.

☐ ⊃ ∑ **PCG146 WOLFENSTEIN 3-D v1.4** RealTime 3D graphics. Looking through the eyes of a POW escaping from the bottom floor of a Nazi castle to the top. **(2)**

☐ **PCG156 BACKGAMMON** Whether you're the Back Gammon champ across 3 counties or have never played before, Heres a player/tutor who never complains

☐ **PCG176 POWERCHESS v6.0** Is now available and waiting to challenge you to your limits. For beginner to advanced players can play to their hearts content.

☐ **PCG179 SCRAMBLE** Plays like a familiar crossword board game of a similar name. EGA, 33000 word dictionary

☐ **PCG186 CONTRACT BRIDGE** For the beginer player learn to beat the computer

☐ **PCG187 CRIBBAGE** If you know how to play and are just lacking an opponent this will test your skills. CGA+

☐ **PCG199 SPHERE OF DESTINEY** From the team that produced Wolfenstien Feautres better graphics, more Germany Officers, End of level bad Guys ect **(2)**

☐ * **PCG234 CRIBBAGE OF WINDS** is a windows fantasy role playing game set in the world of Norse mythology, Nearly 100 unique monsters oppose you in your quest. **WIN (2)**

☐ **PCG238 COMMANDER KEEN THE LOST EPISODE** In Keen Dreams only you can help CK cover some The lost vegetables and Fruits, which have conspired to spoil his day in this action packed lost episode.

☐ **PCG242 HORSE RACING** Heres full colour horse racing simulation so real it practically leaves hoofprints.

☐ **PCG288 CHESS** Your mission is to collect precious stones while avoiding monsters and hazards in all 100 levels. You'll be playing until the fuel runs out. Now with Extra levels

☐ ⊃ **PCG289 ZONE 66** Its another offering from EPIC Mega game. The leading shoot'em up on the market. **(2)**

☐ * **PCG291 MONSTERBASH** Apogee platform game, iYou play the role of young Johnny Dash out to avenge the dognapping of his' faithful mutt. EGA+. **(2)**

☐ **PCG292 WORLD CUP CRICKET** Allows you to experience the trills & spills of International oh day cricket. EGA+

☐ **PCG316 SOLAR WINDS** You play the role of an independent bounty hunter caught in conflict bewteen the government & rebol forces. A VGA adventure feast.

☐ ⊃ **PCG317 DARKNESS** Now Theres Blake Stone Aliens of Gold! A battle against genetically designed killing machines. Blake is bigger, better, more feafures packed with tons more graphics, animations, enemies & cinematics! 11 levels. (2)

☐ ☐ ⊃ **PCG411 XARGON 1: BEYOND REALITY** A new release from Epic MegaGames. Intense arcade action meets bold exploration. You play the role of Malvineous on an expedition through gigantic, action-packed levels in the style of the award-winning Jill of the Jungle. Excellent! 256-color art, highly animated enemies, Sound Blaster music/sound, and more!

☐ ⊃ **PCG413 SPECULATOR v1.0** Is a real estate strategy game where you can play using real imaginary land areas. Here's your chance to be a real estate wheeler-dealer, without risking a dime of your hard come by cash. Specialize in one area or chance to test you investment acumen. Features graphics very simular to Sim City.

☐ **PCG416 BBS GAMES** a complete solution for any BBS operator you wants some new games for there Boards or you can just play them on a computer. **(4)**

☐ ⊃ **PCG420 3-POINTS** is a basketball game by MVP Software. Take on ASBA stars such as shackle O'Deal and Bald barkler in a 3 point shootout. mouse.

☐ **PCG421 TRUEBLOOD:** The Karthanian Ultimatum TB contains seven levels of pulsating action during the first level you encounter Kartanian scout ships.

☐ **PCG422 SLICKS** is a car racing game. Race tiny racing cars around a track at imcredible speed! Has multi-player options. Will keep you amused for days!

☐ ⊃ **PCG423 TETRIS ENGRAPHY (WIN)** Heres a nice Little Tetris type game with basically has the same rules as tetris nut your playing on a map of the USA.

☐ **PCG425 MIND GAMES** Give your joystick a rest and play with your mind, heres a selection of games to mind and puzzle type games. PCG427 & PCG428 **(3)**

☐ ⊃ **PCG426 TETRIS MANIA** two Tetris type games. FLOATRIS and COLUMNS.

☐ ⊃ **PCG429 JIGSAW PUZZLE** Creates very realistic puzzle shapes. Theres a total of 40 different puzzles.

☐ **PCG430 GALAXY TREK** is a war game set in space. You are the commander of the X10a starship. Your mission is to roam the outer regions of the galaxy, searching for enemy space ships. **(2)**

☐ ⊃ ∑ **PCG432 ROCKLE WARS** is a parallax scrolling, 256 colour, georgeous cinematic sequences, whimsical musical score, digitized sound effects. **(2)**

☐ ⊃ * **PCG437 DUNGEONS OF DEATH** Heres another 100 enique and completly new levels for use with Wolf3d

☐ **PCG438 STREET FIGHTER II For WOLF3D** Why not enhance your Wolfenstien 3d with some Street Fighter II graphics and sound effects. A complete set of new levels.

☐ **PCG440 PUZZLE** of Tigzawish shareware game. You put together all the pieces and get a whole picture. There are four different levels and each level can be played using five different piece sizes. Requiers : 500K of memory or more, VGA video card, 286 machine at least, Mouse.

☐ **PCG441 HEARTLIGHT** Guide the Heartlight through twenty levels of puzzles featuring 256-color animated graphics! Heartlight is a puzzle game from Epic MegaGames and XLAND Games and it's sure to keep you up late at night as you try to conquer all the ingenious levels. Requires 386 or faster processor. Supports Sound Blaster and Adlib music cards.

Nudges, The Meter, and most of all a Real Design.

☐ **PCG380 MADDOG WILLIUMS** Crafters present a Stunning VGA adventure game where you play Maddog Williums with a mission to save the Beautiful Princess

☐ **PCG382 STELCON 2469 v1.6** The Ultimate space war strategy game! Supports only high-quality 256 colour VGA graphics! It can be a simple 2 player war game to a 5 player campaign! Playing field can have upto 20 star systems, each with its own planets and resources! Play against a friend or the computer

☐ **PCG383 STELLAR DEFENSE v1.1** A 256 colour space arcade game where you must fight to save your galaxy from the onslaught of the Yarian invaders. Pilot your ship

☐ **PCG384 ULTIMUH** The ultimate role playing game includes scanned in digitized actors, emvolution rearing sound track, and cinematic sequences! The best example of role-playing in the history of man kind. 8 levels of digitally scannedin graphics. VGA

☐ **PCG385 LORD OF MIGHTY** is a arena style fighting simulator in which you decide everything from the armour to wear to the opponent he fight. Many swords to swords.

☐ ⊃ ∑ **PCG386 GLOBAL WAR 3.0** is a super risk game which freatures bitmapped graphics, digital and FM sound, navy, air, carriers, airbourne, bases, supply rules, nukes, reenforcements, 1-9 players, mouse support, 3d rotating globe.

☐ **PCG387 ARMAGEDDON2** Smoothly scrolling arcade action in deep space. Fly your ship in mazes of the Mines, collect the Bonuses

☐ **PCG390 WAR GAMES** Contains African Desert Campaign, Battle Ground, Army, Atlanti, Banyon2, Battig-rad, Battle, Begin16, Begmnut7, Bomb20, Bombaway, Conquest, Gtnm, Islewars, Kursk, Lmskag, Mech112, MSBoom, Scorch12, etc. **(5)**

☐ *£ **PCG395 ULT BLACKJACK v1.1** This is an animated Blackjack simulator. Play blackjack by yourself with any one of three dealers supplied or play with upto 4 other players at the table.

☐ **PCG396 VGA PLANETS** is a multi-player space conquest game for up to 11 players. The game is designed so that players can play by modem & take turns. **(2)**

☐ ☐ ⊃ **PCG403 BLACK STONE** In 1992 came Wolfenstien. Now theres Blake Stone Aliens of Gold! A battle against genectically designed killing machines. Blake is bigger, better, more feafures packed with tons more graphics, animations, enemies & cinematics! 11 levels. (2)

☐ ☐ ⊃ **PCG411 XARGON 1: BEYOND REALITY** A new release from Epic MegaGames. Intense arcade action meets bold exploration. You play the role of Malvineous on an expedition through gigantic, action-packed levels in the style of the award-winning Jill of the Jungle. Excellent! 256-color art, highly animated enemies, Sound Blaster music/sound, and more!

☐ ⊃ **PCG413 SPECULATOR v1.0** Is a real estate strategy game where you can play using real imaginary land areas. Here's your chance to be a real estate wheeler-dealer, without risking a dime of your hard come by cash. Specialize in one area or chance to test you investment acumen. Features graphics very simular to Sim City. Software OVER 2.5 MEGS of pure role-playing.

☐ **PCG459 WAR STREET RENDER v4.1** The corporate takeover game and simulation. The ultimate in gritty realism. Simulates a real-time stock market, with constantly moving stock ticker, financial news headlines, as you attempt to react to constantly changing economic model, investing in any of 25 companies (IBM, GM, etc.) in 36 industries. 1to 4 players, or play against computer. Unique & exciting.

☐ ⊃ **PCG460 ZOOL PLAY** A Sonic the Hedgehog clone. This game plays similar to the Sega classic Hedghog. Req VGA and supports Soundblaster, Adlib, Roland and joystick. There's even an adjustment to increase his speed!

☐ **PCG461 THE BURPS v1.01** The object of the game is to collect the three parts of the treasure door using one of three characters. Collect the correct coloured keys to open the doors to further your quest. Choose your hero, each with its own weapon and access to their own secret doors to aid you in your quest.

☐ * **PCG462 WOLFENSTIEN EXTRAS II** ESCAPE FROM THE HOUSE OF STYLE Yup, here it is. The one you've all been waiting for. Escape if you can (and only if you won't tell. VIOLENT WOLF'S violent swap will file was made using WOLFEDIT By Bill Kirby

☐ **PCG463 POT 'O' GOLD** is a multimedia Vegas-style slot machine simulation. It combines digital sound effects with colorful animation. You simply click on your coin bucket with the mouse to place your bet, then click on the lever to start the action. If you run out of money, there is an option to "beg" the casino manager for credit.

☐ **PCG464 MEDWAR v1,1 (WIN)** Medieval War is a Windows based wargame set in medieval times. MEDWAR allows for up to six human or computer players, play-by-mail games, handicapping with 24 strength levels, and 14 types of pieces.

☐ **PCG465 CARD SHARK HEARTS** Current versions of CardShark Hearts are being compiled with version 3 of Visual Basic and requires VBRUN300.DLL. If you do not have VBRUN300.DLL, check with the place from which you got CSHEARTS, or use the order form that is in this archive to get it

☐ **PCG466 SPACE EXPLORATION (WIN)** Mission Alpha - Lunar Excellent Windows adaptation of the classic arcade game Lunar Lander. NEW: customizable skill levels.

☐ **PCG467 WINJACK (WIN)** is a game of Blackjack for Windows. NEW: support for 256-color displays, animation, sound effects, card counting, statistics, and more.

☐ **PCG468 3D COUNTRY HOUSE** Explore a 3-D Environmental World. Walk around a small country home and its surroundings.

PRICES (Prices are Per Disk)

1 ..... disk £3.00 2-5 ..... disks £2.75
6-10 . disks £2.50 11-20 .. disks £2.00
21-50 disks £1.75 51+ ..... disks £1.25

- SPECIAL OFFERS -

(1) Order any 14 PD disks for the price of 11 that's only £22.00 + 50p P&P (which is only £1.57 for each disk).

(2) Order any 24 PD disks for the price of only £34.00 + 50p P&P (which is only £1.42 for each disk).

COLLECTING DISKS

You can now collect any disks from our office address which is Unit 2, 6-8 Durham Road, Southend-On-Sea, ESSEX, SS1 2YD. Collecting disks are cheaper than normal.

ORDERING BY POST

Please tick the boxes to the left of the disk numbers with a Pen, Hi-Lighter or just outline the disk (s) you would like to order. After selecting your disks, fill in your Personal details on the order form provided. CUT OUT or copy this advert & Post it to the Address above. Hand written orders are also accepted. Orders with cleared funds will be sent by 1st class post within 48 hours.

PD & SHAREWARE

The Disks contained within this advert are Public Domain or Shareware unless otherwise stated, Please remember that the cost you pay us is for the duplication & handling costs incurred, not for the programs or the contents of the disk(s). Remember that Shareware is not FREE and if you like it, Register it with the Author(s).

POSTAGE & CARRIAGE

PCAnswers

Get the most out of your PC at home

IN THIS MONTH'S ISSUE...

Visit a madhouse
The home where a PC wears the trousers

Create crazy text effects with your WP and DTP

CD-ROM drives on test
6 double and triple-speed drives on test

Ultima VIII – ultimate RPG?

Plus all the very latest news and reviews

HOT STUFF!

Make your PC future proof with our complete upgrade solutions guide – from mice to motherboards

PACKED!
HD DISK EVERY MONTH



DON'T MISS NEXT MONTH'S DOUBLE DISK ISSUE

PC Answers – the natural choice for all your home and leisure needs...

ON SALE NOW!

RICOH LP1200 PCL5 LASER PRINTER

400 DPI 2 Mb RAM 6 PPM

A4 TEXT/A5 GRAPHICS @ 400dpi • A4 GRAPHICS @ 300dpi. A 2Mb RAM UPGRADE IS REQUIRED TO PRINT A FULL A4 PAGE OF GRAPHICS AT 400dpi

HP LASERJET III™ COMPATIBLE • FLASH ROM UPGRADEABLE!

Ricoh, have used their expertise to produce a 'first' in laser printers, the LP1200 with FLASH ROM. HP LaserJet III™ compatible, the LP1200 employs industry proven laser technology which, unlike LED printers, uses a laser light source to produce the most accurate and intense printed images at a range of print resolutions up to 400dpi. A fast efficient processor and engine, plus a straight paper path design allows printing at a full 6 pages per minute. The 2Mb RAM version prints a full A4 page of text or graphics at 300dpi. Using standard resident fonts and the alternate controller firmware supplied, it can also print an A4 page of text or A5 page of graphics at 400dpi and, using the Windows driver supplied, an A4 page of text at 400dpi from Windows 3.1.

FREE!
WINDOWS 3.1 DRIVER
SUPPORTS 300 & 400DPI
AMIGA DRIVER
SUPPORTS 300 & 400DPI

2Mb RAM



SHOWN WITH
UNIVERSAL FEEDER
TOP TRAY (OPTIONAL EXTRA)

The 4Mb RAM version can print a full A4 page of graphics at 400 dpi and makes full use of the LP1200's 400 dpi printing capabilities, such as using Microsoft Windows fonts. Unique additional standard features include FLASH ROM 'future proof' technology and LAYOUT - a powerful document description language. The LP1200's unique internal FLASH ROM, which holds the printer controller firmware, can easily be updated as new developments in technology occur. This protects the investment you make in buying a Ricoh LP1200. Other manufacturers would require you to buy a new printer! Internal FLASH ROM and industry standard FLASH ROM PCMCIA cards can also be used to permanently store fonts, macros, graphics and extra emulations. Again, unlike the competition, the LP1200 includes LAYOUT, a powerful and intuitive document description language as standard. This offers unique opportunities to develop custom made printing systems. Forms and document templates can be designed complete with logos and stored electronically in the LP1200's FLASH ROM, alleviating the need for pre-printed forms!

The LP1200 comes with a 100 sheet A4 paper tray as standard. An optional universal feeder automatically feeds up to 150 sheets of paper (up to 169gsm), 15 envelopes, transparencies and labels.

CONSUMABLES + ACCESSORIES

PRODUCT CODE	PRODUCT DESCRIPTION	PRICE EXC VAT
CAB 7500	Cable for PC/ST/Amiga	£8.47
KIT 5200	Laser Starter Kit inc Cable	£12.50
LAA 5238	Universal Feeder (2nd Tray)	£85.00
LAA 5262	2Mb RAM Module	£85.00
LAA 5210	Developer/Toner Cartridge	£65.00
LAA 5225	OPC Cartridge (Drum)	£89.00
LAA 5312	A4 Paper Tray (100 Sheets)	£35.00
FAX 1200	Ricoh Fax/Modem Software/Firmware	£120.00
MOD 7199	Pace Microlin FX Fax/Data Modem	£149.00
LAA 5279	Ricoh Flash ROM Card (0.5Mb)	£49.00
LAA 5288	Ricoh Flash RAM Card (1Mb)	£199.00

All Prices are Exc VAT - CALL FOR A FULL PRICE LIST

*Note: A4 paper tray is already included in the printer price. More A4 trays can be purchased to feed different coloured stationery.

FEATURES	IBM 4029-020	FUJITISU VM600	CANON LBP-4 PLUS	STAR 8III	RICOH LP1200
Average Street Price (excl. VAT)	£929	£699	£659	£899	£699
Maximum resolution in dots per inch	300 x 300	300 x 300	300 x 300	300 x 300	400 x 400
Windows 3 Driver @ 400 dpi	-	-	-	-	YES
Print Speed	6ppm	6ppm	4ppm	8ppm	6ppm
Straight Paper Path	-	NO	(ONLY FACE UP)	YES	YES
PCL 5 Printer Command Language	-	YES	-	YES	YES
HP-GL/2 Vector Graphics included	YES	YES	-	YES	YES
Resolution Improvement/Enhancement	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Standard RAM	1Mb	1Mb	512K	1Mb	2Mb
Full A4/300 dpi graphics with standard RAM	-	-	-	-	YES
Warm Up Time	33 secs	25 secs	<60 secs	60 secs	45 secs
First Page of Text Output		15 secs	31 secs	18 secs	<15 secs
Document Description Language included	-	-	-	-	YES
Flash ROM	-	-	-	-	YES
Flash ROM Upgradeable Firmware	-	-	-	-	YES
PCMCIA Card Slot	-	-	-	-	YES
Scaleable Resident Fonts - in HP LJ III Emulation	0	8	0	8	8
Resident Bit-Mapped Fonts	10	14	2	14	14
AGFA Intellifont Scaleable Font Technology	-	YES	-	YES	YES
HP LaserJet III Emulation Included	-	YES	-	YES	YES
EPSON FX Emulation Included	-	YES	YES	YES	YES
IBM ProPrinter Emulation Included	-	YES	YES	YES	YES
Standard Tray Capacity	200	150	70	200	100
Protective cover on standard tray	YES	-	YES	YES	YES
Cost per copy**	1.9p	2.0p	2.1p	2.2p	1.65p
Min-Max Paper Weight in gsm	60-163	60-157	60-105	60-135	60-169
Able to print on OHP Film	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Able to print on 169gsm card (Manual Feed)	-	-	-	-	YES
Standby - Noise Level	38dB(A)	35dB(A)	<43dB(A)	<43dB(A)	<38dB
Printing - Noise Level	50dB(A)	46dB(A)	<53dB(A)	<53dB(A)	<48dB
PC Independent PLAIN PAPER FAX OPTION	-	-	-	-	YES

**As quoted by manufacturers - July '93

E&OE All Trademarks are acknowledged

UNBEATABLE VALUE

THE AWARD WINNING RICOH LP1200 LASER

PREVIOUS PRICE ~~£599~~ + VAT

NEW LOW PRICE

£499

+ VAT = £586.33 LAS 5200

LP1200 WITH SINGLE BIN AND 2 Mb RAM

FREE DELIVERY

COMPUTER SHOPPER BEST BUY AUGUST '92

PC TODAY BEST BUY OCTOBER '92

AMIGA GOLD FORMAT

LASER PRINTER AWARDS What to Buy for business A "BEST BUY" DECEMBER 1992

PC MAGAZINE UK EDITOR'S CHOICE OCTOBER '92

- **6 PAGES PER MINUTE**
- **2Mb RAM AS STANDARD** Upgrade to 4Mb RAM only £85+VAT - see below
- **PCL5 - INC HP-GL/2** With scalable fonts and vector graphics
- **SHARP EDGED PRINTING** Ricoh FIAL (Fine Image ALgorithm) enhances resolution
- **400dpi RESOLUTION** (Default res. - 300dpi. Will address 200, 240 & 400dpi)
- **UNIQUE FLASH ROM** For controller upgrade and storage
- **PCMCIA CARD SLOT** (PCMCIA/JEIDA Compatible) For programmable FLASH ROM cards
- **EXPANSION BOARD SLOT** For improved connectivity eg. Coax/Twinax, PC-LAN etc
- **LAYOUT** Document Description Language
- **SERIAL + PARALLEL PORTS**
- **1 YEAR ON-SITE WARRANTY** Next working day response

THE SILICA SERVICE

SILICA 1978 15 YEARS 1993 SERVICE TO YOU

Before you decide when to buy your new laser printer, we suggest you think very carefully about WHERE you buy them. Consider what it will be like a few months after you have made your purchase, when you may require additional peripherals or software, or help and advice. And, will the company you buy from contact you with details of new products? At Silica, we ensure that you will have nothing to worry about. With our unrivalled experience and expertise, we can meet our customers' requirements with an understanding which is second to none. Complete and return the coupon now for our latest FREE literature and begin to experience the "Silica Service".

- **FREE OVERNIGHT DELIVERY:** On all hardware orders shipped in the UK mainland (there is a small charge for Saturday delivery).
- **TECHNICAL SUPPORT HELPLINE:** A team of technical experts will be at your service.
- **PRICE MATCH:** We match competitors on a "Same product - Same price" basis.
- **ESTABLISHED 15 YEARS:** We have a proven track record in professional computer sales.
- **PART OF A £50M A YEAR COMPANY:** With over 200 staff - We are solid, reliable and profitable.
- **BUSINESS + EDUCATION + GOVERNMENT:** Volume discounts are available. **Tel: 081-308 0888.**
- **SHOWROOMS:** We have demonstration facilities at all our stores.
- **THE FULL STOCK RANGE:** All of your computer requirements are available from one specialist supplier.
- **FREE CATALOGUES:** Will be mailed to you, with special reduced price offers, as well as details on all software and peripherals.
- **PAYMENT:** We accept most major credit cards, cash, cheque or monthly terms (APR 29.8% - written quotes on request).

SILICA

27041711/4

MAIL ORDER

PLUS TECHNICAL AND HEAD OFFICE

081-309 1111

1-4 The Mews, Hatherley Road, Sidcup, Kent, DA14 5SS

PLUS BRANCHES AT:

CHELMSFORD Tel: 0245 355511
Debenhams (2nd Floor), 27 High St, Chelmsford, Essex, CM1 1DA

CROYDON Tel: 081-688 4455
Debenhams (2nd Floor), 11-31 North End, Croydon, Surrey, CR9 1RQ

GLASGOW Tel: 041-221 0088
Debenhams (5th Floor), 97 Argyle St, Glasgow, Strathclyde, G2 8AR

IPSWICH Tel: 0473 221313
Debenhams (2nd Floor), Westgate Street, Ipswich, IP1 3EH

LONDON
52 Tottenham Court Road Tel: 071-580 4000
Debenhams (3rd Floor), 334 Oxford St Tel: 071-493 3735
Selfridges (Basement Arena), 369 Oxford St Tel: 071-629 1234

MANCHESTER Tel: 061-832 8666
Debenhams (3rd Floor), Market Street, Manchester, M60 1TA

SIDCUP Tel: 081-302 8811
1-4 The Mews, Hatherley Road, Sidcup, Kent, DA14 4DX

SOUTHEND Tel: 0702 468039
Keddies (2nd Floor), High St, Southend-on-Sea, Essex, SS1 1LA

To: Silica, PCFOR-0694-219, 1-4 The Mews, Hatherley Rd, Sidcup, Kent, DA14 4DX

PLEASE SEND INFORMATION ON RICOH LP1200

Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms: ..... Initials: .....

Surname: .....

Company (if applicable): .....

Address: .....

.....

.....

.....

..... Postcode: .....

Tel (Home): .....

Tel (Work): .....

Which computer(s), if any, do you own?

..... 219A



Philips' CD-i machine has been around for a couple of years, and even though new games are giving the boxy beauty a second lease of life, it could quite easily be a case of too little too late.



Commodore's second attempt at a CD-based machine is the CD32, which is based around the 32-bit hardware found in Commodore's popular A1200 computer.

THE NEXT GENERATION

Sega, Nintendo, Sony, Commodore, 3DO and Atari are lining up their super consoles for an almighty high-street battle, but what does it all mean as far as the PC is concerned? Richard Longhurst looks into his crystal ball.

WHO NEEDS A 3DO?
Creative Labs, the makers of the Sound Blaster soundcard, has signed a deal with The 3DO Company that will enable the former to produce an expansion card enabling the PC to play 3DO games – but the card will only be produced if 3DO takes off in a big way.

First of all it was Spectrum and Commodore 64, then ST and Amiga, and then Mega Drive and SNES. The 'my machine's better than your machine' debate has raged on since the early 80s, with kids of all ages getting stuck into petty arguments about the VIC-20's pathetic 3.5K of RAM, the Spectrum's dodgy rubber keyboard, the Amiga's painful programming process, the ST's awful sound chips, the Mega Drive's paltry 64 colours and the SNES's slow central processor. And things aren't going to change with the next generation of consoles, with hardware manufacturers falling over themselves to cram more chips into black boxes than ever before.

The big boys in the games industry are pulling out all the stops to produce games machines that can cut the mustard when they come up against the PC

As the PC's processing power becomes increasingly affordable, the focus of games is shifting from cutesy platformers and finger-blistering shoot-'em-ups to 3D race games with rendered graphics, incredibly detailed flight sims and photo-realistic adventures. 'Any game worth its salt should have a lengthy intro sequence created in *3D Studio*, followed up with at least five minutes of full-motion video. The PC can do it with its BIOS tied behind its back, but the Amigas, Mega Drives and Super Nintendos of this world can't compete in this high-powered arena. The big boys in the games industry are pulling out all the stops to produce games machines that can cut the mustard when they come up against the PC.

LIFTING THE LID...

But you can argue about hardware specifications until you're blue in the face – nobody buys a computer just to unscrew the lid and look at the chips. However sexy a computer system is, nobody will buy it unless there's a decent game they want to play on it. Nintendo made its money because everyone wanted to bounce along with *Mario* and then *Street Fighter 2*, Sega hit the big time when *Sonic* came into view, and the PC has become a popular games machine because a whole string of games – *Wing Commander 2*, *Ultima Underworld*, *Strike Commander*, *Sam and Max Hit the Road* and *Doom* – left people gagging to buy a PC. If you want to play any of these games, (and let's face it, there isn't anyone who owns a computer or console who doesn't want to play *Doom)* you have to own a PC, it's as simple as that. If you want to play *Mario*, you have to own a Nintendo system and if you want to play *Sonic*, you've got to have a Sega.

It all seems so obvious, but big corporations, who you might think would know better, are still making very basic mistakes. The 3DO system provided a huge leap in technology when it was launched in the US last October, its RISC processor and twin graphics engine providing power that had never been seen in a console system. And Panasonic's first 3DO player received acres of praise in the Press, and was launched exactly to schedule in the US – but there were hardly any games for it. The machine was bundled with *Crash 'n' Burn*, an impressive race game with short-lived appeal, but it was definitely not a startling piece of software. 3DO needed a game that could persuade the American public to fork out $700 to play it, and *Crash 'n' Burn* just wasn't it.

3DO is already beginning to look like a missed opportunity, and the hardware that once seemed so promising is suffering from a lack of software support. The launch of the system has stung Sega and Nintendo into action, both of whom have announced their visions of the future of video gaming, and there's a new kid on the video block in the shape of Sony. →



The first 64-bit console to hit the streets was Atari's Jaguar, but its launch wasn't greeted with a fanfare. Expect a full launch in June, but for now they're only available in small numbers.



We've all heard a lot about 3DO, but we're going to have to wait until September for a full European launch. Has it been a victim of its own hype?

TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS In order of availability.

MACHINE	ESSENTIAL DETAILS	BASIC HARDWARE	OTHER TWIDDLY BITS
CD-i 	**Who's responsible?** Philips **When can I buy one?** Any time you feel the urge and happen to have £400 to spare **Format:** CD with a 150K/sec transfer rate	The 15.5MHz 68070 Motorola chip forms the heart of this system. The CD-i is capable of displaying true-colour graphics from a palette of 16.7 million colours at resolutions of between 384x280 and 768x560. There's 1.5Mb of RAM and custom sound chips.	An add-on full-motion-video cartridge enabling you to play video CDs is available for around £150.
CD32 	**Who's responsible?** Commodore **When can I buy one?** Any time you like, from £249 **Format:** CD with a 300K/sec transfer rate	The central processor is the 32-bit Motorola 68020, running at 14MHz, backed up with AGA (Advanced Graphics Architecture) graphics chips. It's capable of displaying true-colour graphics from a palette of 16.7 million colours, usually at 320x256, but theoretically up to 1,280x512. 2Mb of RAM and custom sound chips.	It has a keyboard socket, a port for a floppy disk drive and an FMV module.
JAGUAR 	**Who's responsible?** Atari, but it's being manufactured in the US by IBM **When can I buy one?** Look hard enough and you should pick one up now for around £300, but they only start arriving in numbers in June **Format:** Cartridge	The central processor is the 64-bit Motorola MC68000, backed up with two 64-bit RISC graphic processors and an assortment of custom chips for Gouraud shading and 3D effects. It's capable of displaying true-colour graphics from a palette of 16.7 million colours at resolutions up to 720x576. 2Mb of RAM and custom sound chips.	A CD add-on is due to be launched later in the year, and look out for an MPEG option.
3DO 	**Who's responsible?** The 3DO Company, with Matsushita, AT&T, EA and Time Warner. In theory anyone can make a 3DO **When can I buy one?** European launch in Sept, expect to pay £350 **Format:** CD, 300 K/sec	A 32-bit RISC processor running at 12.5 MHz is coupled with two 32-bit graphics engines giving powerful scaling, rotation and texture mapping functions. Can display true-colour graphics from a palette of 16.7 million colours at resolutions up to 320x240, interpolated to make it look like 640x480. 3Mb of RAM and custom sound chips.	Watch out for an MPEG option later in the year.
SATURN 	**Who's responsible?** Sega **When can I buy one?** Possibly before Christmas this year, as long as you've got £300 floating around **Format:** CD with a 300K/sec transfer rate	Two 32-bit Hitachi RISC chips running at 27MHz along with a selection of high-end graphics chips for scaling, Gouraud shading, texture mapping, sprite scaling and just about any graphical wheeze you'd care to mention. It's capable of displaying true-colour graphics from a palette of 16.7 million. It should make some sexy noises, too.	It's too early to say whether MPEG capability will be standard or optional. A virtual headset and voice recognition system are also being mooted.
PROJECT REALITY 	**Who's responsible?** Nintendo and Silicon Graphics **When can I buy one?** The mystery machine should appear some time in 1995, and they're aiming for a price of below £300 **Format:** Cartridge	Potentially based around a 64-bit 100MHz RISC chip, Project Reality is being developed by Nintendo with high-end graphics specialists Silicon Graphics. Nobody knows exactly what power the machine will finally deliver, but you can bet it's going to have some top-of-the-range graphics and sound chips.	With a machine this powerful, you probably won't need any.
PS-X 	**Who's responsible?** Sony **When can I buy one?** Not this year, that's for sure. The smart money's on mid-95, but Paul reckons it'll be 1997. Probably around £350 **Format:** CD with a 300K/sec transfer rate	A 33MHz 32-bit RISC chip is the heart of the machine, supplemented by the 3DGE (3D Graphics Engine) which will be able to shift polygons, sprites and texture maps like they've never been shifted before. Throw in MPEG, powerful sound chips and 5Mb of RAM and you've got an extremely promising system.	None announced, but there are almost bound to be some.

WHO NEEDS CD-i?

Philips has proudly launched the CD-i Digital Video cartridge add-on which enables you to play video CDs. If you've got a ReelMagic card and a suitable Sony CD drive, you can do the same on your PC – and a lot more besides.

PROGRAMMERS TO £40K

LONDON AND LOS ANGELES

Teque London Ltd and Accent Media Productions are established developers of high quality computer entertainment products on a wide variety of platforms. As part of our continued expansion we are seeking to recruit programmers to work in our London and Los Angeles offices on the latest hardware platforms (Jaguar, Sega CD, Mac CD, IBM CD-ROM, Philips CDI, Sony PSX etc).

CD PROGRAMMERS.

Los Angeles. Industry professionals with a minimum of two years commercial experience, a number of published titles (CD, cartridge or floppy) and excellent knowledge of CD based platforms. Fluent in assembly programming and with a working knowledge of C/C++. Graduates are particularly invited to apply. Salary to £40K.

ASSEMBLY LANGUAGE PROGRAMMERS.

London. Good assembly language skills (680 x 0, 80 x 86, ARM etc). Several years programming experience, although commercial experience is not essential, if you can demonstrate your potential. You will have a demo of your work on disk. Salary dependent on qualifications and experience.

C/C++ PROGRAMMERS

London. Good C/C++ skills preferably gained at University on the PC or Apple Mac. Games programming experience is not essential, if you know your subject inside out. Salary dependent on qualifications and experience

ORIGINAL GAMES

If you have written a good original game, we would like to see it.
Please send demo disks to the address below.

For further information contact Tony Love or Barry Costas on **081 293 0283,** FAX us on **081 293 0263,** or E-Mail us on **100044,702@compuserve.com.**
Alternatively send us your CV and demo disks to
Teque London Ltd, 24a Nelson Road, Greenwich, London SE10 9JB.
All enquiries will be treated in the strictest confidence.
Interviews will be held initially in London.



CD ROM

COMPILATION
Kings Quest V, PC Karaoke Classics, World Atlas, CD ROM of CD ROMs, World Factbook, Stellar 7, PC Animation Festival, Doom, Timeman of the Year, Best of Media Clips. £34.99

7th Guest	£29.99
Battlechess	£24.99
Beauty & the Beast	£19.99
Chess Master Karpov	£14.99
Chess Master 3000	£24.99
Contes Art Review	£28.50
Corel Draw 3	**£54.99**
Crossword Cracker	£9.95
Dagger of Amon Ra	£24.99
Family Doctor	£18.95
Gabriel Knight	£29.95
Jets & Props	£24.95
Jutland	£32.50
Kodak Photo Access	£19.99
Oceans Below	£19.99
Rebel Assault	£29.99
World Atlas	£19.99
Lotus 123 V1.1 for Windows	£24.99

PC 3.5

American Gladiators	£9.99
Art of War in the Skies	£14.99
Batman Returns	£14.99
Brutal Sports Football	£14.99
Caesers Palace	£12.99
Championship Manager	£14.99
Chess Master 3000	£14.99
Chess Master 4000 Turbo	£14.99
Covert Action	£12.99
Creepers	£12.99
Degeneration	£4.99
Discoveries of the Deep	£14.99
Flashback	£14.99
Game Pack 4	£14.99
Global Conquest	£12.99
Ishar	£9.99
Legend	£12.99
Legend of Valour	£12.99
Life & Death 2	£4.99
Little Divil	£14.99
Mavis Beacon OEM	£4.99
Micro Bridge (Card Game)	**£14.99**
Moonshine Racers	£4.99
Nigel Mansell	£9.99
Pirates Gold	**£19.99**
Premier Manager	£14.99
Premier Manager 2	£19.99
Push Over	£9.99
Robin Hood	£4.99
Sensible Soccer 93	£14.99
Sim Life	£14.99
Soccer Stars	£14.99
Spear of Destiny	£14.99
Star Wars Chess	£19.99
Strike II	£4.99
War in the Gulf	£14.99
World Atlas Version 4	£19.99
World Class Rugby	£12.99
Worlds of Legend	£14.99
Zool	£14.99

All prices include VAT

HARDWARE

Cirrus Logic 1 MEG 24 bit true colour SVGA card	£64 + VAT
Panasonic 24 Pin 2123 Colour Printer	£155 + VAT
Panasonic 562B CD ROM Drive Including Interface	£136 + VAT
Thrustmaster Joystick	£75 inc VAT
Thrustmaster Formula One Steering Wheel + Control Pedal	£149 inc VAT

FULL THRUSTMASTER RANGE IN STOCK NOW!!



HOW TO ORDER

BY PHONE:-
Any of our shops will be glad to take your order and give you advice as to the best buys.

ACCESS, VISA, OR SWITCH ACCEPTED.

BY LETTER:-
Write to our Cheshunt shop enclosing cheque or postal order. Remember to include your phone number so we can keep you informed.

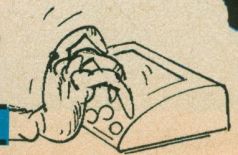
5 Lynton Parade
Cheshunt
Herts
EN8 8LF
0992 625323

22 The Forum
Stevenage
Herts
SG1 1EH
0438 354449

19 The Broadway
The Bourne
Southgate
London N14 6PH
081 882 4942

Unit 6 Midgate
Peterborough
Cambs
PE1 1TN
0733 349696

BEFORE YOU CONSULT A PRICE LIST.....
CONSULT A SPECIALIST



THE LOGIC SHOP

THE SPECIALIST COMPUTER SHOP



Sega's forthcoming Saturn console, a sleek-looking beastie if ever there was one. Nobody knows for sure what the machine has in store for us inside that sexy exterior, but we'll soon find out.



Could Nintendo's Project Reality look like this? But then, why would anyone want to design a machine that looks like a PC?

→ After buying Psygnosis last year, the Japanese giant has announced plans for a super console which, the pundits say, will knock spots off all of the competition. Of course, that's what they said about 3DO, but nobody expects Sony to make the same mistakes with the launch of its system.

ON A NEW WORLD...

The rather unsightly competition in the video games market can only be good for the PC, a *de facto* standard that's supported by more hardware companies and software houses than all the other systems put together. When you buy a PC, you know that you're buying a machine that won't be out-dated by the next generation of hardware to appear – it can be continually upgraded.

One of the major advantages of the PC is that its survival doesn't merely depend on how well it fares as a games machine. Businesses around the world are always going to use it, and huge hardware companies and software houses have a vested interest in making sure that it survives as a computing platform for the 90s and beyond. Developments in hardware and software made for business use have inevitably spun off into the games side. Hell, if you go right back to the basics, the PC was originally designed as a business machine, and it's only really playing games by accident. But that's not to say that companies aren't developing PC hardware specifically for games. Intel has realised that its Pentium chip is ideal for powering 3D sims such as *Pacific Strike* (see our review on page 60), and Argonaut has developed a dedicated 3D graphics chip that could be incorporated as standard on all graphics cards.

When you buy a PC, you know that you're buying a machine that won't be out-dated by the next generation of hardware to appear

Trawl through the big names driving the PC's hardware and you've got companies such as IBM, Intel and AMD, and a whole host of manufacturers producing graphics cards, faster CD drives and better soundcards. Cast your net on the software side and it drags in billion-dollar corporations such as Microsoft and Novell before it even gets to the tiny-by-comparison game developers. In the big world of the PC, companies such as Origin, LucasArts, Bullfrog, MicroProse, Spectrum HoloByte and Westwood Studios are small fry, but they're playing an increasingly important role in the future of the format.

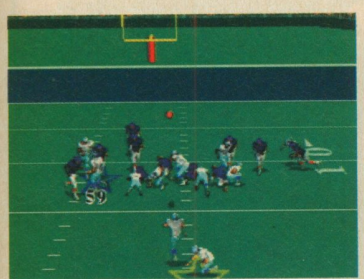
...OF COMPUTER GAMES

Why else would Intel organise a joint promotion with Electronic Arts to persuade the Press and public that you need to play games on a PC fitted with a Pentium processor if you want to get the most from them? Although the two companies conveniently ignored the fact that the speed at which a game runs is also determined by the graphics card, the point is still clear. With companies like Intel starting to recognise that games are going to be big business, you can guarantee that the future of the PC has never looked better. Consoles? What consoles? PCF

NOT SO MEGA MEGA DRIVE

Remember the Amstrad MegaPC, a machine that combined a powerful (ahem) 386SX PC with a Sega Mega Drive? No, nor does anyone else. Not a huge success, but it was the only way to get Sonic on to a PC screen.

→



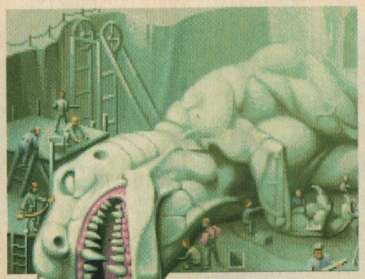
JOHN MADDEN FOOTBALL ON THE 3DO

After a slow start, decent software's starting to trickle through. Shoot-'em-up *Total Eclipse* and *John Madden's Football* are top of the tree for now, but 3DO versions of motorbike *Road Rash*, *FIFA International Soccer* and *Theme Park* all look very promising. Things are looking up, but has 3DO already queered its pitch?



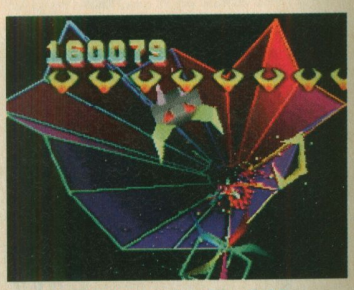
THE 7TH GUEST ON CD-i

Several titles are available on Philips' machine that you can't get anywhere else, but none are particularly spectacular. Golf game *Palm Springs Open* is old; shoot-'em-up *Kether* is pretty good; and now CD-i versions of *The 7th Guest*, *Microcosm* and *Rebel Assault* are being produced. At best it's struggling to keep up, at worst it's dead in the water.



CHAOS ENGINE ON THE CD32

The only game on CD32 that you can't buy on another system is the tedious 3D space-based RPG *Liberation*, which will soon be out on the Amiga anyway. Soon you'll be able to play *TFX* and *Cannon Fodder*, but that's about it. The roll-call of developers is limited to the usual range of Amiga bods.



TEMPEST 2000 ON THE JAGUAR

Developers are disillusioned with Atari machines, but the award-winning Jaguar hardware might tempt them. Jeff *'Llamatron'* Minter is responsible for the adrenaline-pumping but graphically primitive *Tempest 2000*. Watch out for the potentially stunning *Alien vs Predator* from Rebellion Software and *Freelancer* from Imagitec.

ILLUSTRATION: PAUL KIDBY

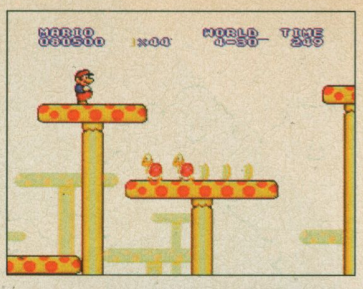


And last, but by no means least, Sony's PlayStation-X, which promises to be one of the biggest events in home entertainment and consumer electronics this decade. Well, one of the biggest events of next year, anyway.



VIRTUA FIGHTERS POSSIBLY COMING TO SATURN

Sega has produced a long string of singularly impressive coin-operated arcade games, and they're almost bound to turn up on the Saturn system. Some big game names you might like to casually drop into conversation include race game *Daytona GP*, *Virtua Fighters* and *Virtua Soccer*.





MARIO'S BOUND TO APPEAR ON PROJECT REALITY

Details on Project Reality games are so sketchy that they make a Modigliani line drawing look like a sumptuous Gainsborough. With Silicon Graphics on board, you can bet the games are going to make the most of the system's 3D engine. But as for what and when, it's too early to say.

GO ON THEN, TELL US WHAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN NEXT

MACHINE	GREATEST STRENGTH	POTENTIAL WEAKNESSES	PROSPECTS
CD-i 	It's a CD player, it's a video CD player, it's a games machine, it's an edutainment machine. It's all things to all people, and Philips claims to have sold 300,000 of the beasts, with hopes for 1,000,000 by the end of the year.	The hardware hasn't changed much since it was launched in 1992, and the recently released digital video cartridge isn't revolutionary enough to lift the machine above the ordinary. There aren't enough games, and the games that are coming are all on other formats.	On the surface, the future looks grim for the system, but because of the fairly large installed base, some developers are looking seriously at CD-i. Amstrad launches its own CD-i machine later this year, which could provide a further boost. Ultimately, though, the hardware's out of date.
CD-32 	The Amiga has an almost fanatical following in the UK and, if sales of *PCF's* sister magazine *Amiga Format* are anything to go by (140,000 readers), they're still desperate for games. But the attraction of the Amiga was that it was more than a games machine – unlike the CD32.	Punters who had their fingers burned by Commodore's first CD offering, the CDTV, won't be too keen to go down the Commodore road again. The Amiga market is tiny outside the UK. The technology is good for now, but the only upgrade is an FMV module.	With Commodore in financial difficulties and only limited software support, it's hard to see how CD32 has any future whatsoever. It might survive for a couple of years in the UK, but its long-term prospects are somewhat dodgy.
JAGUAR 	The hardware's regarded throughout the games industry as being extremely good (it won Best Hardware award at the recent European Computer Trade Show), but software support isn't vast at the moment. Being cart-based, it avoids the CD's slow transfer rate, but games could be pricey.	Despite creating one of the most popular consoles of the mid-80s, the VCS 2600, Atari has lost ground. The Falcon home computer was their competitor to the 386 PC, but the machine died a death, almost unnoticed by the game-playing public. Could the Jaguar go the same way?	The Jaguar offers an excellent power-to-price ratio, but machines are only trickling through for sale in the UK, although it's been available in the USA for months. Unless Atari gets its act together, the Jaguar will soon be lost in the hype surrounding the launch of the 3DO and Sega systems.
3DO 	At its launch in the US, the 3DO's strength lay in its impressive hardware – it was way ahead of the console-based competition. The idea of having an open system – the 3DO technology is currently licensed to six manufacturers – bode well, as did the backing of EA, AT&T and Matsushita.	The initial lack of software was inexcusable, and things aren't much better now. The CD drive is slow – some games take 30 seconds or more to load. The hardware doesn't look so high tech, compared to the Jaguar and the potential of forthcoming systems. 3DO is rapidly losing its lead.	Trip Hawkins, president of 3DO, has announced that the European launch of 3DO has been delayed until September. At least some decent software should be available then, but developers are disillusioned and the public confused. 3DO may already have been a victim of its own success.
SATURN 	Saturn is currently floating in the Twilight Zone of unreality, with nobody quite sure what it's going to involve and when. If anyone knows how to make a games machine a success, it's got to be Sega. Of course, you could always say the same about Nintendo.	Sega's Mega CD and Mars Mega Drive add-on might cause confusion in an increasingly crowded high street, but who knows what lies inside Saturn?	If the success of the Mega Drive is anything to go by, Saturn could be massive. Sega saw off Nintendo in the US and Europe – it might do the same again.
PROJECT REALITY 	Nintendo's marketing muscle and Silicon Graphics' technical expertise make an irresistible combination. If anyone knows how to make a games machine a success, it's got to be Nintendo. Of course, you could say the same about Sega.	Nobody really knows what the machine's going to be like, but Nintendo has plumped for a cartridge-based system rather than CD. This could restrict the games that are produced on the system (unless a CD module is produced) and make them more expensive to manufacture.	Enormous. And then some. Nintendo's got a point to prove after losing market share to Sega and will pull out all the stops to be the biggest in Europe.
PS-X 	In a word, Sony. Another word, hardware. And a few more, multi-million-dollar marketing budget.	Too early to say, but as long as Sony doesn't make the same mistakes as 3DO, then this could be a winning system.	Potentially huge. Look, it's Sony, a company that can afford to buy Columbia with its spare change.

HANG ON A MINUTE...

As if all that hardware wasn't enough, Pioneer is launching another CD games system. LaserActive is based around a laserdisc player with plug-in modules that runs 16-bit console games, and is currently on sale in Japan. It won't find its way over here until late this year.

Wallpaper Collections

for your Windows 3.1 desktop

all our prices are inclusive of VAT and delivery, even better value!

£19.95 for any one collection

£29.95 for any two collections

£37.95 for all three collections

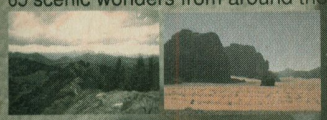
The Venus Collection
Beautiful Models in 65 glamorous pictures



The Impressionists Collection
65 Paintings by the worlds most famous Impressionists



The World Collection
65 scenic wonders from around the world



Requires Windows 3.1, 4MB of memory and a 256 colour video card

And FREE! with every order ...
Horoscopes On this Date Quotes







Access

Sales 0742 56 16 96

VISA

Orders also by fax on 0742 619 990 or by post to 604 Barnsley Road, Firth Park, Sheffield,S5 6UA.

Copyright 1994 The Digital Almanac Co. Ltd., all rights reserved.

BUYING A CD ROM DRIVE? OR CD ROM DISC'S???

Then Join the CD Rom User Group (UK)

- Monthly Newsletter, with News, Reviews Members Ads, Letters, Photo CD & More.
- FREE Competitions to win great prizes.
- HUGE! Discounts on CD Drives & Discs.
- CD Hire Library, Try Before You Buy!
- CD Exchange, Swap your CD's
- CD Mastering, transfer your data to CD.
- Technical Help & Advice.
- Plus Offers direct from Suppliers.

All this for just £29.99 Plus a FREE CD Disc & our CD Utils Shareware Floppy Disk

Send a Cheque or P/O made payable to:
CD Rom User Group, 48 Ashdown Road, Bexhill TN40 1SE

CALL US (24 hrs) for an information pack on
Tel: 0424 730326 Fax: 0424 438467
International Applications accepted £45.00

LEISURE

SOUND CARDS

Sound Blaster V2.0 Value (Includes 2 Free games & Free Speakers)	£44
Sound Blaster Pro Value (Includes 2 Free games & Free Speakers)	£58
Sound Blaster Pro 16 Value	£79
Sound Blaster Pro 16 Multi CD	£118
Sound Blaster 16 SCSI 2	£142
Sound Blaster Pro 16 AdSP Multi CD	£142
Sound Blaster 16 ASP SCSI 2	£165
Sound Blaster 16 AWE 32	£195
FREE SPEAKERS WITH ALL SOUND BLASTER CARDS	
Wave Blaster	£136
Midi Blaster	£136
Orchid Sound Producer	£38
Orchid Sound Producer Pro	£72
Orchid Gamewave 32	£95
Orchid Soundwave 32	£145
Logitech Soundman Games	£59
Logitech Audioman	£76
Logitech Soundman 16	£99
Logitech Soundman Wave	£148
Gravis Ultrasound Card	£107
Gravis Ultrasound Midi Kit	£36
Media Vision Pro Sonic 16	£85
Media Vision Pro Audio Basic 16	£85
Media Vision Pro Audio Spectrum 16	£125
Media Vision Pro Sonic 16 SCSI	£112
Media Vision Pro Audio Studio 16	£165
Media Magic ISP 16	£99
Media Magic DSP	£115
Media Magic DSP 16 SCSI	£159
Media Magic DSP 16 Plus	£199
Diamond Sonic Sound	£158
Diamond Sonic Sound LX	£88
Microsoft Windows Software & Mic.	£39
Microsoft Windows Sound card	£105
Spea VIDEOSEVEN Media FX	£158
Small Speakers	£5
Screen Beat Speakers	£13
Sounddisk SD-100 Speakers for 5.25"	£19
Small Mains Powered Amp Speakers	£19
Medium Mains Powered Amp Speakers	£29
Large Mains Powered Amp Speakers	£49
Pro Digital Speakers	£35

CD DRIVES

AT INTERFACE	
Mitsumi CRMC-FX001D Dual Speed	£138
Panasonic CR562 Dual Speed AT Drive	£135
Panasonic 563CD Drive & 1 FREE CD *(Contains Aldus Photostyler & Kodak Photo CD Software)*	£158
Panasonic CD56X Interface Kit	£19
Orchid CDS3110 Dual Speed Drive	£138
Sony CDU33A01A Dual Speed Drive *(Complete with Interface & Cables)*	£149
SCSI INTERFACE	
Toshiba XM4101B Bare Internal Drive	£174
Toshiba KT4101BA Complete Internal Kit	£198
Toshiba KT4101B Bare External Drive	£238
Toshiba KT4101BA Complete External Kit	£279
Toshiba KT-3401B SCSI Bare Internal Drive	£248
Toshiba KT-3401BA SCSI Complete Internal Kit	£318
Toshiba KT-3401SA SCSI Bare External Drive	£238
Toshiba KT-3401SA SCSI Complete External Kit	£418
Toshiba Sound Cable	£5
NEC 2XI Internal Double Speed Drive	£157
NEC 3XI Internal Triple Speed Drive	£295
NEC 3XP Portable Triple speed Drive	£315
NEC 3XE External Triple speed Drive	£375
NEC 4X External Quad Speed Drive	£645
NEC AT SCSI Interface Kit	£65
NEC Parallel/SCSI Interface Kit	£95
Pioneer DRM-604X Jukebox Drive	£989
Pioneer Cable & Power	£29
CD ROM KITS	
Sound Blaster CD16 Discovery Pack	£295
Sound Blaster GameBlaster CD	£318
Sound Blaster Digital Edge III	£578
Sound Blaster Pro Deluxe & Panasonic 562 Drive *(2 Free Games & Free Speakers)*	£195
Media Vision Pro Sonic 16 & Panasonic 562 & Speakers *(16 Bit quality at the price of an 8 Bit card)*	£219
Orchid Sound Wave 32 & Orchid CDS3110 Drive *(Free Games "Day of the Tentacle on CD, Zool" + Speakers)*	£268
Sound Blaster Pro 16 & Panasonic 563CD Drive *(Aldus Photosyler, Kodak Photo CD Software & Speakers)*	£248
CD Game Pack 5 CD Titles *(Return to Zork, F15 Strike Eagle, Kings Quest V, Mantis, Stella 7)*	£39

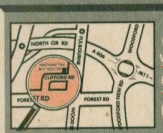
Free MOUSEMAT with every order

This is only a small sample of our complete range of stock for the IBM PC. Call for a copy of our current price list or look in Computer Shopper, PC Direct or Personal Computer World.

May '94 Price List

All prices are correct at time of going to press. All Prices exclude VAT & Delivery. All sales are subject to our standard Terms & Conditions.

PLEASE NOTE: Prices are changing so rapidly they can go up or down at any time. We will always endeavour to offer you the best prices. We aim to offer all goods from stock, and orders received before 15.00 will be despatched the same day. Our carriage charges are as follows: 1st Class Recorded Post.....£5 ; 1st Class Registered Post..... £7; Next - Day Courier.....£8 - £15 (dependant upon the number of parcels). If we haven't got the goods in stock, you will be informed by our saleperson before taking your order. You will be given the expected shipping date. With the exception of Mice and joysticks, all our goods are supplied with 12 months RTB warranty. And there's a 14 day "no quibble" money back guarantee except for printers.



SIMPLY COMPUTERS
081 523 4020
FROM THE PEOPLE WHO LOVE PC's

AMERICAN EXPRESS DELTA ACCESS VISA

Simply Computers Ltd, 28 Walthamstow Business Centre, Clifford Road, Walthamstow, London E17 4SX.
Telephone: 081 523 4020 Facsimile: 081 523 4002 Showroom Mon-Fri 10am to 6pm. Sat 10am-4pm.

SOME TITLES MAY NOT BE RELEASED AT THE TIME OF GOING TO PRESS

Premier Mail Order

E&OE

Please send cheque made out to Premier Mail Order, PO/Access/Visa No. and expiry date to

Dept.PCF33, 9-10 The Capricorn Centre, Cranes Farm Road, Basildon, Essex SS14 3JJ. Tel: 0268-271172 *Fax: 0268-271173*

Telephone orders: Mon-Fri 9am-7pm and Sat & Sun 10am-4pm. We are open 364 days a year

P&P and VAT is included for all UK orders. Please add £2.00 P&P for Europe and £3.50 for rest of the world. Next day service available UK only at £4.00 per item.

10 Year CD ..... CDROM 29.99
1942 Pacific Air War 27.99
A Train 12.99
A320 Airbus (Edition Europa) 30.49
A320 Airbus (USA) 30.49
Aces of the Deep 27.99
Aces of the Pacific Expansion Disk 13.99
Aces Over Europe 26.99
Aces over Korea 26.99
Action Sport 19.99
Addiction ..... 3.5" or CDROM 22.99
Air Bucks 1-2 ..... 22.99
Air Force Commander 22.99
Alien Breed 19.99
ATP 27.99
ATP + East & West USA Scenery ..... CDROM 56.99
Award Winners 2 ..... 22.99
Battle of Time ..... CDROM 19.99
Battles of Time ..... CDROM 19.99
Battle Isle 2 ..... 26.99
Beauty & the Beast 20.99
Benoath Steel Sky 22.99
Big Sea 19.99
Bloodnet ..... 3.5"/CDROM 29.99
Body Blows 19.99
Breach II 19.99
Burning Rubber 19.99
Buzz ..... CDROM 29.99
Caesar Deluxe 27.99
Campaign 2 ..... 24.99
Cannon Fodder 27.99
Captive 2 ..... 22.99
Carriers at War II 27.99
Castles 2 ..... 23.99
Castles 2 ..... CDROM 29.99
Championship Manager '94 Season Disk 7.99
Championship Manager 93 (DOS or Windows) 19.99
Chaos Control 22.99
Chaos Engine 27.99
Chessmaster 4000 (Windows) 22.99
Civilisation (DOS) 26.99
Civilisation (Windows) 27.99
Cohort 2 ..... 19.99
Combat Classics 2 ..... 23.99
Commanche Maximum Overkill 27.99
Conquered Kingdoms 27.99
Conspiracy ..... CDROM 32.99
Cyberworlds ..... 3.5" or CDROM 17.99
Daemonsgate 22.99
Day of the Tentacle 27.99
Day of the Tentacle ..... CDROM 29.99
Delta V 26.99
Dizzy Collection 19.99
Dragonsphere ..... CDROM 27.99
Dune 2 ..... 23.99
Dungeon Master 2 ..... 26.99
Dynablasters 23.99
Elder Scrolls - (The Arena) 27.99
Elite 2 (Frontier) 26.99
European Champions 19.99
Evasive Action 22.99
Excellent Games (compilation) 26.99
F1 ..... 19.99
F14 Fleet Defender 27.99
F19 Stealth Fighter/Titus the Fox ..... CDROM 19.99
F29 ..... 11.99
FA Premier League Football 19.99
Falcon 3-0 ..... 28.99
Falcon 3-0 F/18A 18.99
Falcon 3-0 IMG-29 Deadly Adversary) 16.99
Fantastic Worlds 26.99
Fantasy Empires (Enhanced) ..... CDROM 24.99
Fatman 17.99
Fields of Glory 27.99
Flight Sim 5 – New York Scenery Disk 13.99
Flight Sim 5 – Paris Scenery Disk 13.99
Flight Sim 5 West USA Scenery Disk 29.99
Flight Sim Toolkit ..... 3.5"/CDROM 29.99
Flight Simulator 5 ..... 29.99
Forgotten Castle 27.99
Formula One Grand Prix 2 ..... 27.99
Front Page Sports Football Pro 26.99
Gabriel Knight 26.99
Gabriel Knight ..... CDROM 27.99
God 22.99
Golden7 (compilation) ..... CD ROM 29.99
Grandest Fleet 27.99
Great Naval Battles (Super Ships) 12.99
Great Naval Battles 2 ..... 3.5"/CDROM 28.99
Great Naval Battles Scenario Builder 13.99
Gunship 2000 (Scenery disk) 17.99
Gunship 2000 VGA 26.99
Hand of Fate – Legend of Kyrandia 2 ..... 22.99

Hanna Barbera Cartoon Animator 29.99
Hannibal 19.99
Harpoon II 27.99
Heirs to the Throne 27.99
Hill Street Blues ..... CDROM 12.99
Hired Guns 27.99
History Line 1914-1918 ..... 26.99
History Line 1914-1918 ..... CDROM 29.99
In Extremis 26.99
Inca 2 ..... 27.99
Indy Car Racing 27.99
Indy Fate of Atlantis Adv 24.99
Indy Jones Fate of Atl Adv ..... CDROM 27.99
Innocent Until Caught 25.99
Iron Helix ..... CDROM 26.99
Ishar 2 ..... 20.99
Jack the Ripper ..... 3.5" or CDROM 27.99
Jones in the Fast Lane ..... CDROM 25.99
Jonny Quest 19.99
Jurassic Park 22.99
Kingmaker 25.99
Kings Quest 6 ..... 3.5"/CDROM 29.99
Knights of the Sky 27.99
Laser Squad (Enhanced) ..... CDROM 12.99
Legend of Kyrandia 2 ..... 22.99
Leisure Suit Larry 1 ..... CDROM 25.99
Space Quest 1 ..... 3.5"/CDROM 12.99
Links the Challenge of Golf ..... 3.5"/CDROM 12.99
Championship Manager Definitive Edition 19.99
Spaceship Warlock ..... CDROM 29.99
Kings Quest 3 or 4 ..... 12.99
Leisure Suit Larry 1 or 2 or 3 ..... 12.99
Leisure Suit Larry 1 to 4 ..... CDROM 29.99
Ultimate Pinball Quest 19.99
World Cup USA 94 ..... 27.99
Ambermoon 26.99
A320 Approach Trainer 29.99
Bridge Olympiad 29.99
Aegis Guardian of Fleet ..... CDROM 39.99
Lords of Midnight ..... 3.5"/CDROM 23.99
Corridor 7 ..... 13.99
Outpost 27.99
Outpost ..... CDROM 33.99
Wolfenstein 3D 13.99
Superfrog 22.99
Commanche Mission Disk 1 or 2 ..... 13.99
Leisure Suit Larry 6 ..... CDROM 32.99
Lemmings Double Pack 27.99
Lemmings/Oh No ..... CDROM 27.99
Link Worlds ..... 3.5" or CDROM 22.99
Links 386 Pro Super VGA 29.99
Links Banff Springs (SVGA) 16.99
Links Barton Creek (VGA) 15.99
Links Bayhill (VGA) 15.99
Links Bearnhid (VGA) 15.99
Links Castle Pines 16.99
Links Fantasy Course (SVGA) 16.99
Links Firestone (SVGA) 16.99
Links Gleneagles (SVGA) 16.99
Links Hyatt Dorado (VGA) 15.99
Links Innisbrook (SVGA) 16.99
Links Kapalua Course (SVGA) 16.99
Links Mauna Kea (SVGA) 16.99
Links Pebble Beach (SVGA) 16.99
Links Pinehurst (SVGA) 16.99
Links St Andrews Course (SVGA) 16.99
Links The Berkley (SVGA) 16.99
Links Troon North (VGA) 15.99
Lords of Power – (compilation) 26.99
Lost Files of Sherlock Holmes ..... CDROM 22.99
Lotus 24.99
Mad Dog McCree ..... CDROM 29.99
Manchester United Premier League Champions 27.99
Merchant Prince 27.99
Microcosm ..... CDROM 35.99
Mitronachines 19.99
Microprose F1 Grand Prix 27.99
Microsoft Golf (Windows) 32.99
Microsoft Golf Pinehurst Course Disk 14.99
Microsoft Golf Banff Springs Course Disk 14.99
ATP Great Britain Scenery Disk 24.99
ATP Hawaiian Odyssey Scenery Disk 16.99
ATP Japan Scenery Disk 16.99
ATP Western European Scenery Disk 16.99
ATP Scenery Disk 9 Chicago/St Louis/Cincinnati 13.99
ATP Scenery Disk 11 Detroit/Lake Huron 13.99
ATP Scenery Disk 12 New York/Montreal/Halifax 13.99
Microsoft Multimedia Beethoven ..... CDROM 29.99
Microsoft Musical Instruments ..... CDROM 28.99
Monkey Island 2 (VGA) 25.99
Monkey Island 1 ..... CDROM 30.99
Monopoly 22.99
Moonstone 20.99

Mortal Kombat 22.99
MTG 94 ..... 19.99
NFL Coaches Club Football 25.99
Pinball Dreams deluxe ..... CDROM 25.99
Pinball Fantasies ..... CDROM 12.99
Alone in the Dark 2 ..... 26.99
Ultima 8 – Pagan ..... CDROM 34.99
Heimdall 2 ..... 3.5"/CDROM 26.99
Lemmings 2 ..... CDROM 20.99
7th Guest/Dune ..... CDROM 29.99
Dangerous Streets 27.99
Pinball Dreams 2 Data Disk 13.99
Ravenloft 27.99
Flight Sim 5 Real Weather Pilot 17.99
Flight Sim 5 Air Traffic Controller 10.99
Flight Sim 5 Praxim 19.99
Flight Sim 5 Flight Adventure 825 ..... 13.99
Elite 2 Frontier ..... CDROM 28.99
Lamborghini 19.99
Fire Art (Windows) ..... CDROM 30.99
Megarace ..... CDROM 26.99
Genesia 27.99
Police Quest 1 or 2 ..... 12.99
Police Quest 1 ..... CDROM 12.99
Quest for Glory 2 ..... 13.99
Rebels Bequest 12.99
Ultima 7 Complete ..... CDROM 29.99
Lands of Lore ..... CDROM 27.99
Reunion 27.99
Graham Gooch's World Class Cricket 19.99
Nick Faldos Championship Golf ..... CDROM 26.99
Armadeth ..... CDROM 29.99
Beneath a Steel Sky ..... CDROM 29.99
Myst ..... CDROM 34.99
Settlers 26.99
Tactical Manager English or Italian or Scottish 22.99
Biofarge 29.99
Wings of Glory 29.99
Doom 25.99
Ultima Underworld & Wing Commander 2 ..... CDROM 29.99
11th Hour – 7th Guest 2 ..... CDROM 49.99
Harpoon 1 ..... 12.99
Harpoon 2 ..... 10.99
Links Collectors CD ..... CDROM 29.99
Silent Service 2 ..... CDROM 13.99
Railroad Tycoon ..... CDROM 13.99
Walls of Rome ..... CDROM 12.99
Jack Nicklaus Unlimited Golf + Course Design ..... CDROM 12.99
NFL Pro League Football ..... 3.5"/CDROM 26.99
Diggers ..... 3.5"/CDROM 25.99
Morph 19.99
Flight Sim 5 Washington 16.99
Flight Sim 5 San Francisco 16.99
Battle Isle 2 ..... CDROM 29.99
UFO Enemy Unknown ..... 3.5"/CDROM 27.99
Eye of the Beholder 1 ..... CDROM 12.99
Cruise for a Corpse ..... CDROM 12.99
F15 Strike Eagle 2 ..... CDROM 12.99
F19 Stealthfighter ..... CDROM 12.99
M1 Tank Platoon ..... CDROM 12.99
Championship Manager End of Season 11.99
International Manager World Cup Edition 19.99
Pirates ..... CDROM 12.99
Nhl Hockey 27.99
Nick Faldo's Championship Golf 19.99
Nicky 2 ..... 19.99
Pagan Safari 22.99
Omar Sharif's Bridge 24.99
Oregano 27.99
Orcas ..... 3.5" or CDROM 19.99
Pacific Strike 29.99
Pacific Strike Speech Accessory Pack 13.99
Patrio Worlds 22.99
Perfect General 2 ..... 27.99
Perfect General Trilogy 27.99
Pga Tour Golf 2 ..... 27.99
Pinball Dreams 22.99
Pinball Fantasies 24.99
Pinball Magic 7.99
Pirates Gold 27.99
Populous & Promised Lands 10.99
Power Game 2 ..... 24.99
Power Tactics 22.99
Powermonger 11.99
Prehistoric 2 ..... 20.99
Premier Manager 2 ..... 22.99
Prince of Persia 1 ..... 10.99
Prince of Persia 2 ..... 25.99
Print Shop Deluxe 34.99
Privateer 29.99
Privateer Special Operations 13.99
Privateer Speech Accessory Pack 13.99
Quantum Gate 29.99

Quarter Pole (Horse Racing) 19.99
Quest & Fun ..... CDROM 29.99
Railroad Tycoon 12.99
Railroad Tycoon Deluxe 26.99
Reach out for Gold 17.99
Red Crystal 27.99
Return of the Phantom ..... CDROM 29.99
Return to Zork ..... CDROM 32.99
Rise of the Dragon 27.99
Rise of the Robots ..... CDROM 34.99
Rise of the Robots (SVGA) 29.99
Rise of the Robots (VGA) 27.99
Ryder Cup 19.99
Ryder Cup ..... CDROM 26.99
Sabre Team ..... 3.5" or CDROM 19.99
Sam & Max Hit the Road 27.99
Sam & Max Hit the Road ..... CDROM 29.99
Scrabble 20.99
Seal Team 24.99
Secret of Monkey Island 1 ..... CDROM 30.99
Sensible Soccer 21.99
Shadow Caster 27.99
Shadow Caster ..... CDROM 32.99
Shadow of the Comet ..... CDROM 29.99
Shadowlords ..... CDROM 12.99
Sherlock Holmes 2 ..... CDROM 32.99
Sid & Al's Incredible Toons 26.99
Silent Service 2 ..... 12.99
Silverball 19.99
Sim Ant ..... CDROM 29.99
Sim City ..... CDROM 29.99
Sim City 2000 ..... 26.99
Sim City Deluxe 22.99
Sim City/Lemmings 19.99
Sim City/Populous 19.99
Sim Life 27.99
Simon the Sorcerer 26.99
Soccer Kid 19.99
Space Hulk 24.99
Space Hulk ..... CDROM 32.99
Space Legends 22.99
Spellcasting Triple Pack ..... CDROM 27.99
Sports Masters 22.99
SSN-21 Sea Wolf 29.99
Star Reach 26.99
Star Trek 2 – Judgement Rites 26.99
Star Trek 25th Anniversary 24.99
Star Trek 25th Anniversary ..... CDROM 32.99
Star Trek Starfleet Academy 29.99
Star Trek The Next Generation ..... CDROM 27.99
Starlord 27.99
Streetfighter 2 ..... 19.99
Strike Commander 26.99
Strike Commander ..... CDROM 32.99
Strike Commander (speech pack) 13.99
Strike Commander Special Ops 1 ..... 13.99
Strike Squad 26.99
Stunt Island 29.99
S-U-8 ..... 22.99
Sub War 2050 ..... 27.99
Syndicate 26.99
Syndicate American Revolt Data Disk 13.99
Syndicate Plus ..... CDROM 32.99
Tesserae 19.99
Tetris /7 Colours 16.99
TFX 27.99
TFX ..... CDROM 29.99
The Blue and the Grey 26.99
The Greatest 22.99
The Greatest ..... CDROM 27.99
The Journeyman Project ..... CDROM 26.99
The Lawnmower Man ..... CDROM 32.99
The Settlers 19.99
The Shadow of Yserius 25.99
Theme Park 27.99
Tony La Russa Baseball 2 (enhanced) ..... CDROM 29.99
Tornado 26.99
Tornado ..... CDROM 29.99
Tornado (Operation Desert Storm) 13.99
Traps 'n' Treasures 19.99
Trivial Pursuit 10.99
Turning Points 22.99
UFO Enemy Unknown 27.99
Ultima 7 (The Black Gate) 26.99
Ultima 7 (The Serpent Isle) 25.99
Ultima 7 (The Silver Seed) 13.99
Ultima 8 (Speech Accessory Pack) 13.99
Ultima 8 – Pagan 29.99
Ultima Trilogy 2 ..... 26.49
Ultima Underworld 1 ..... 26.99
Ultima Underworld 1& 2 ..... CDROM 29.99
Ultima Underworld 2 ..... 26.99
Ultima VI 12.99

UMS Compilation ..... 3.5" or CDROM 27.99
Unnatural Selection 26.99
Unnecessary Roughness 26.99
Veil Of Darkness 24.99
Virtual Worlds 19.99
Whales Voyage ..... 3.5" or CDROM 22.99
Who shot Johnny Rock ..... CDROM 29.99
Wing Commander 1 ..... 11.99
Wing Commander 1 Secret Missions 1 & 2 ..... 16.99
Wing Commander 2 + Speech Pack 26.99
Wing Commander 2 Special Ops 1 ..... 9.99
Wing Commander 2 Special Ops 2 ..... 9.99
Wing Commander Academy 22.99
Winter Olympics 25.99
Winter Olympics CDROM 29.99
Winter Super Sports ..... CDROM 19.99
Wizard 26.99
Wizardry 5/6/7 Compilation 27.99
World War 2– Battles of the South Pacific 27.99
X-Wing 27.99
X-Wing Imperial Pursuit Mission 13.99
Xmas Lemmings 13.99
Yo Joe 19.99
Zig Zag 27.99

SPECIAL OFFERS

Alone in the Dark 16.99
Alone in the Dark + Jack in the Dark ..... CDROM 16.99
Batman Returns 12.99
B17 Flying Fortress 16.99
Chessmaster 3000 ..... 14.99
Chessmaster 3000 ..... 22.99
Commanche Maximum Overkill 17.99
Dogfight 16.99
F15 Strike Eagle 3 ..... 16.99
Flashback 19.99
Lemmings 2 The Tribes 19.99
Harrier Jump Jet 16.99
Jack Nicklaus Courses Pebble Beach etc 7.99
Jack Nicklaus Courses St Andrews etc 7.99
Jack Nicklaus Unlimited Golf 12.99
Laser Squad 13.99
Microprose Golf (Isedbeters) 16.99
Shadow Worlds 9.99
World Class Rugby (Five Nations) 9.99

JOYSTICKS & ACCESSORIES

3 Button Serial Mouse 9.99
Action Replay Pro 59.99
CH Flightstick 29.99
CH Flightstick Pro 59.99
Disk Box (16 Capacity) 1.99
Disk Box (40 capacity) 4.99
Disk Box (50 Capacity) 5.99
Disk Box (80 capacity) 6.99
Disk Box (100 Capacity) 7.99
Freeflight Analog Throttle 15.99
Freeflight Joystick 27.99
Freewheel Analog Steering Wheel 27.99
Gravis Analog Joystick 34.99
Gravis Analog Pro Joystick 39.99
Gravis Dual Eliminator PC Game Port 24.99
Gravis PC Gamepad 19.99
Gravis Ultrasound 16 Bit Card 139.99
Manhattan Coated 14" Glass Monitor Filter 14.99
Manhattan Glass 14" Monitor Filter 12.99
Manhattan Nylon 14" Monitor Filter 9.99
Freeflight Joystick 27.99
Manhattan Coated Glass 14" Monitor Filter 14.99
Manhattan Glass 14" Monitor Filter 12.99
Manhattan Nylon 14" Monitor Filter 9.99
Maxx Tech Flight Yoke 64.99
Mouse Mat 1.99
Quickjoy Mb SV202 ..... 11.99
Quickjoy Topstar SV227 ..... 19.99
Saitek Megagrip III MX230 Analog 12.99
Saitek Megastick III MX130 Digital 8.99
Soundblaster 16 SCSI 2 ASP 239.99
Soundblaster 16 Multi CD 174.99
Soundblaster 16 Multi CD ASP 209.99
Soundblaster 16 ..... 164.99
Soundblaster 16 Basic 139.99
Soundblaster v20 Deluxe 64.99
Soundblaster Pro Deluxe 99.99
Soundblaster Pro Delux Basic 74.99
Soundblaster Pro Plus 139.99
Soundblaster Pro 16 ASP 199.99
Suncom Analog Edge 16.99
Suncom Analog Extra 19.99
Suncom Gamepart 2000 Dual Port Card 16.99
Suncom Command Control Pad 13.99
Suncom Fliteraa 27.99
Suncom FX2000 (left & right handed) 19.00
Suncom G-Force Yoke 49.99
The Sound Source 22.99

EDUCATIONAL

A Christmas Carol (8+) 13.99
ADI English (11-12) or (12-13) or (13-14) 17.99
ADI French (11-12) or (12-13) or (13-14) 17.99
ADI GCSE Maths or English or French 22.99
ADI Maths (11-12) or (12-13) or (13-14) 17.99
Better Maths (12-16 years) 13.99
Better Spelling (8+) 13.99
Biology (12-16 years) 13.99
Cave Maze (8-13 years) 10.99
Chemistry (12-16 years) 13.99
Fraction Goblins (8-13 years) 10.99
Fun School 2 (-6) or (6-8) or (8+) 8.99
Fun School 4 (-5) or (5-7) or (7+) 16.99
Fun School Merlins Maths (7-11) 17.99
Fun School Paint & Create (5+) 17.99
Fun School Spelling Fair (7-13) 17.99
Junior Typist 13.99
Magic Maths (4-8 years) 13.99
Mario Teaches Sums (3-6) 22.99
Maths Dragons (5-12 years) 10.99
Maths Mania (8-12 years) 13.99
Mickey's 123s (2-5) 13.99
Mickey's ABCs (2-5) 13.99
Mickey's Colours & Shapes (2-5) 13.99
Mickey's Jigsaw Puzzles (5+) 13.99
Mickey's Memory Challenge (5+) 13.99
Mixed Up Fairy Tales (7+ years) 22.99
Noddy's Big Adventure (3-7) 19.99
Noddy's Big Adventure (3-7) (Windows) 22.99
Noddys Playtime (3-7 years) 16.99
Physics (12-16 years) 13.99
Picture Fractions (7-10 years) 10.99
Playschool (3-8 years) 10.99
Reasoning With Trolls (5-12 years) 10.99
Robin Hood (8+) 13.99
Story Book Weaver 17.99
The Three Bears (5-10) 13.99
Tidy The House (5-9 years) 10.99
Wind in the Willows (6+) 13.99
Wizard of Oz 13.99

CYRIX CPU UPGRADE CHIPS

386DX 16Mhz to 486DX 32Mhz 219.99
386DX 20Mhz to 486DX 40Mhz 259.99
386DX 25Mhz to 486DX 50Mhz 289.99
386SX 16Mhz to 486SX 40Mhz 199.99
386SX 20Mhz to 486SX 40Mhz 199.99
386SX 25Mhz to 486SX 50Mhz 219.99

3.5" BLANK DISKS

	TDK/VERBATIM (BOXED)		PRECISION (BOXED)		UNBRANDED (LOOSE)	
	LOW	HIGH	LOW	HIGH	LOW	HIGH
10	7.99	9.99	6.49	7.99	5.99	6.99
20	14.50	19.50	11.99	15.50	10.99	13.50
50	35.00	47.50	26.00	37.50	23.99	32.50
100	65.00	95.00	49.99	72.99	44.99	62.99
200	125.00	190.00	94.99	141.99	83.99	121.99
500	300.00	470.00	219.00	350.00	199.99	287.50
1000	580.00	930.00	419.99	680.00	369.99	550.00

Sale Of The Century!

MicroSoft Software!

MS-DOS V5	£10
MS-DOS V6	£30
MS-DOS V6.2	£45
MS-DOS V6+V6.2 UPG	£35
WINDOWS 3.1	£30

MS-DOS V6 + V6.2 Upgrade & Windows 3.1 - Complete package only £49

UPGRADE MS-DOS V6 TO V6.2 USING THE MICROSOFT STEP-UP DISC ONLY £5 TO PC FORMAT READERS!

MicroSoft Software!

Disc Sets only - Spares Items.
These are manufacturer spare items and are for replacing original discs. They are full original versions.

MS-DOS V5	£5
MS-DOS V6	£8
WINDOWS 3.1	£9

Other PC Software

Lotus Works - DOS	£24
Quatro Pro Windows v5	£50
Infomaster	£10

PCX CLIPART PACK OVER 150 IMAGES FOR DTP USE 3 DISKS ONLY £6.50

Games Software!

Trolls	£12

CD ROM Games Software!

Arcade Fruit Machine	£9
Arnie 2	£9
Graeme Souness Soccer Manager	£9
Stack Up	£9
International Tennis	£9
Carnage	£9

PC Peripherals!

QuickShot PC Pack, Joystick & Card	£20
QuickShot Python 5 Joystick	£15

TRUETYPE FONT PACKS 6 DISKS OVER 100 FONTS ONLY £9.50

HOW ONE OF OUR CUSTOMERS MADE OVER £15,000

In December 93 one of our customers purchased one of our Money Making Computer Programs, after first being unsure about the concept, after just 4 months he has achieved £15,000. The Money Making program cost him just £5 and is very easy and well worth while!

We have just received the new advanced version, that makes twice as much money! (Both Kits available!)

Money Making Program £5
Advanced Money Making Program £10

WAVE ELECTRONICS (DEPT PCF9305)
1 BUCCLEUCH STREET, BARROW-IN-FURNESS, CUMBRIA LA14 1SR
TELEPHONE: (0229) - 870000 FAX: (0229) - 829109

Public Domain

All PC Public Domain only £1.50 per disc!

Games

002-Back to the Forest
022-VGA Pinball
023-VGA Shooting Gallery
024-Boulder Dash Clone
025-PCMAN-Pac-Man
026-Miner 2049'er
027-CarchFM
028-Dangerlus Dave
029-VGA Bluebal
030-Beyond-Tetris
031-Mario Bros Clone **NEW**
056-Crystal Caves**NEW**
057-Paganitzu, Platform Game**NEW**

Demos

032-Animation Workshop-Hanna Barbera

Playable Demos

005-Microprose Legend
006-Noddy's Playtime
007-Pinball Fantasies **NEW**
008-Microprose Formula GP**NEW**
009-Amnesia**NEW**
033-Micro Machines**NEW**
036-Sid & Al's Incredible Toons**NEW**
037-Hand of Fate**NEW**
038-Beneath A Steel Sky**NEW**
044-Indiana Jones & Fate of Atlantos *NEW*
045-The Even More Incredible Machine*NEW*
046-Stack-UP**NEW**
047-Sink or Swim**NEW**
048-Krusty's Super FunHouse **NEW**
049-Blues Brothers **NEW**
050-Premier Manager 2**NEW**
052-Tornado**NEW**

Educational

010-Pre School Pack
011-Spelling Tool
012-Spelling Exercises
013-PC Touch Typing Tutor
014-Animals, Counting
015-Calfacts Physics
016-Calfacts Maths
017-Calfacts GCSE Computers
018-Hangman
019-Letterfal - Learn to Type
020-Maths Shop
021-Maths Castle
039-Putt Putt Joins the Parade**NEW**
040-Putt Putt on the Moon**NEW**
041-Take a Break Crossword**NEW**
042-Maths Rescue - Apogee ShareWare
043-Word Rescue - Apogee ShareWare
053-Microsoft Kids Playables**NEW**

Utilities

001-Yourplan
003-PKZIP
004-Analyse
034-Photo Morph Lite**NEW**
035-PC Pools**NEW**
051-Home Finance Companion**NEW**
054-ButtonFile for Windows**NEW**
055-FormGenn 2, Create form in minutes**NEW**

CITIZEN DOT MATRIX AND INKJET PRINTERS

24-PIN ONLY £129 +VAT

FREE! FROM SILICA

- **DELIVERY** Next Day - Anywhere in the UK mainland
- **WINDOWS 3.1** Free Windows 3.1 driver with Printer Kit
- **2 YEAR WARRANTY** (Excluding consumables)
- **HELPLINE** Technical support during office hours
- **PRINTER KIT** With Citizen dot matrix printers from Silica



FREE PRINTER KIT INCLUDES:
- 3½" Disk with Amiga Print Manager
- 3½" Disk with Windows 3.1 Driver
- 1.8 Metre Parallel Printer Cable
- 200 Sheets of Continuous Paper
- 50 Continuous Tractor Feed Address Labels
- 50 Continuous Tractor Feed Disk Labels

AMIGA PRINT MANAGER
For faster printing from your Amiga, with clearer images and more vibrant colours. Available free of charge as part of the Silica Printer Kit.
- Improved Image Smoothing
- Image Scaling
- Gamma/Colour Correction
- Colour Separation
- Reduces/Illiminates Banding

KIT VALUE **£49** +VAT

NEW! ABC 24 — 24 PIN 192 CPS 80 COLUMN



FREE! PRINTER KIT WORTH: £49 +VAT SEE LEFT

COLOUR OPTION AVAILABLE

SAVE £10 OFF PREVIOUS PRICE OF £139



2 YEAR WARRANTY

- 24 pin - 80 column
- 192cps Draft (12cpi) 64cps LQ (12cpi)
- 8K Printer Buffer
- 5 Fonts: 3 LQ, 2 Scalable
- Parallel Interface
- Graphics Resolution: 360 x 360dpi
- 2 Emulations: Epson & IBM
- Citizen Emulation Autoset Facility
- Quiet < 48dB(A)
- Built-in 50 Sheet Automatic Feeder
- Included: - "EASYSTART" S/w - Windows Driver - Amiga Driver
- Optional Extras: - Colour Kit - Tractor Feed - 128K RAM
- FREE Silica Printer Kit
- 2 Year Warranty

FREE DELIVERY

IDEAL FOR THE FIRST-TIME USER — EASYSTART SOFTWARE

OPTIONAL COLOUR KIT
Add full colour to your printouts with the easy to install, optional ABC colour kit. **£23** +VAT=£27.02 - PRA 1237

RRP £189
PRINTER KIT £49
TOTAL VALUE: £238
SAVING: £109
SILICA PRICE: £129

£129 +VAT=£151.58 - PRI 2411

PORTABLE THERMAL 126 CPS

WITH COLOUR OPTION



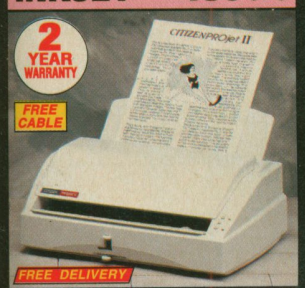
- Citizen Portable Notebook Printer II
- Fast LQ Output - 126cps (12cpi)
- 18k Printer Buffer/5 Fonts
- Parallel Interface
- Graphics Resolution: 360 x 360 dpi
- Epson, IBM, NEC and Citizen Emulations
- Drivers for MS Windows 3.1, MS Word and WordPerfect
- Prints on Standard Office Paper
- Built-in Auto Sheet Feeder - 5 Sheets
- Optional Colour Printing (see below) 'Presentation' - Colour Highlights & 'Artist' - Full Colour Ribbons
- Options: Carry Case, 30 Sheet ASF, NiCad Battery, Car Battery Adaptor
- 2 Year Warranty

RRP £349
TOTAL VALUE: £349
SAVING: £120
SILICA PRICE: £229

£229 +VAT= £269.08 - PRI 2104

COLOUR OPTIONS: Full Colour Ribbon - RIB 3416 £5 +VAT = £5.88; Spot Colour Ribbon - RIB 3427 £4 +VAT = £4.70

INKJET 180 CPS



- Citizen Projet II Inkjet - 80 col
- 180cps Draft, 120cps NLQ (10cpi)
- 50 Nozzle Head - Quiet 46dB(A)
- 50K Printer Buffer
- 1 x IC Card Slot for RAM, Emulation and Font Upgrades
- 3 Fonts Built-in - Optional HP Compatible Font Cards
- Parallel Interface
- Graphics Resolution: 300 x 300dpi
- HP Deskjet Plus (PCL3+) Emulation
- Low Running Costs - Replace Ink Cartridge Only
- Auto Sheet Feeder (70 Sheets)
- Includes Windows 3.1 Driver
- 2 Year Warranty

£10 OFF PREVIOUS PRICE OF PROJET II

RRP £316.00
FREE CABLE £8.47
TOTAL VALUE: £324.47
SAVING: £125.47
SILICA PRICE: £199.00

£199 +VAT=£233.83 - PRI 2093

9 PIN 240 CPS 80 COLUMN



- Citizen Swift 90 - 9 pin - 80 column
- 240cps SD (10cpi) 216cps Draft, 54cps NLQ
- 8K Printer Buffer
- 6 Fonts Built-in
- Parallel Interface
- Graphics Resolution: 240 x 216dpi
- Epson and IBM Emulation
- Auto Set Facility
- Ultra Quiet Mode - 45dB(A)
- Advanced Paper Handling
- Colour Printing Standard - Swift 90c Optional - Swift 90
- FREE Silica Printer Kit

SWIFT 90 MONO
RRP £199
PRINTER KIT £49
TOTAL VALUE: £248
SAVING: £119
SILICA PRICE: £129
£129 +VAT=£151.58 - PRI 2290

SWIFT 90C COLOUR
RRP £219
PRINTER KIT £49
TOTAL VALUE: £268
SAVING: £129
SILICA PRICE: £139
£139 +VAT=£163.33 - PRI 2297

24PIN 270 CPS 80 COLUMN



- Citizen Swift 200/200C - 24 pin - 80 column
- 270cps SD (15cpi), 216 cps Draft, 72cps LQ
- 8K Printer Buffer (40K max) + 7 LQ Fonts
- Parallel Interface
- Graphics Resolution: 360 x 360 dpi
- Epson, IBM, & NEC P20 Emulations
- Quarter Printing and Auto Set Facility
- Ultra Quiet Mode - 43dB(A)
- Colour Printing Standard - Swift 200C Optional - Swift 200
- FREE Silica Printer Kit

£10 OFF PREVIOUS PRICE OF SWIFT 200C

SWIFT 200 MONO
RRP £259
PRINTER KIT £49
TOTAL VALUE: £308
SAVING: £153
SILICA PRICE: £155
£155 +VAT=£182.13 - PRI 2490

SWIFT 200C COLOUR
RRP £279
PRINTER KIT £49
TOTAL VALUE: £328
SAVING: £159
SILICA PRICE: £169
£169 +VAT=£198.58 - PRI 2495

24PIN 300 CPS 80 COLUMN



- Citizen Swift 240/240C - 24 pin - 80 column
- 300cps SD (15cpi), 240 cps Draft, 80cps LQ
- 8k Printer Buffer - 40K maximum
- 9 LQ Fonts + 2 Scalable Fonts (8 - 40pts)
- Font Cartridge Slot for plug in 'style' fonts
- Parallel Interface
- Graphics Resolution: 360 x 360dpi
- Epson, IBM, NEC P20 & CEL Emulations
- Quarter Printing Facility
- Auto Set Facility Bi-directional Interface, Auto Emulation Detection
- Ultra Quiet Mode - 43dB(A)
- Colour Printing Standard - Swift 240c, Optional - Swift 240
- FREE Silica Printer Kit

£10 OFF PREVIOUS PRICES

SWIFT 240 MONO
RRP £339
PRINTER KIT £49
TOTAL VALUE: £388
SAVING: £209
SILICA PRICE: £179
£179 +VAT=£210.33 - PRI 2560

SWIFT 240C COLOUR
RRP £359
PRINTER KIT £49
TOTAL VALUE: £408
SAVING: £209
SILICA PRICE: £199
£199 +VAT=£233.83 - PRI 2571

THE SILICA SERVICE

SILICA 1978 15 YEARS 1993 SERVICE TO YOU

Before you decide when to buy your new printer, we suggest you think very carefully about WHERE you buy it. Consider what it will be like a few months after you have made your purchase, when you may require additional peripherals and accessories or help and advice. And, will the company you buy from contact you with details of new products? At Silica, we ensure that you will have nothing to worry about. With our unrivalled experience and expertise, we can meet our customers' requirements with an understanding which is second to none. Complete and return the coupon now for our latest FREE literature and begin to experience the "Silica Service".

- **FREE OVERNIGHT DELIVERY:** On all hardware orders shipped in the UK mainland (there is a small charge for Saturday delivery).
- **TECHNICAL SUPPORT HELPLINE:** A team of technical experts will be at your service.
- **PRICE MATCH:** We match competitors on a "Same product - Same price" basis.
- **ESTABLISHED 15 YEARS:** We have a proven track record in professional computer sales.
- **PART OF A £50M A YEAR COMPANY:** With over 200 staff - We are solid, reliable and profitable.
- **BUSINESS + EDUCATION + GOVERNMENT:** Volume discounts are available. **Tel: 081-308 0888.**
- **SHOWROOMS:** We have demonstration facilities at all our stores.
- **THE FULL STOCK RANGE:** All of your computer requirements are available from one specialist supplier.
- **FREE CATALOGUES:** Will be mailed to you, with special reduced price offers, as well as details on all software and peripherals.
- **PAYMENT:** We accept most major credit cards, cash, cheque or monthly terms (APR 29.8% - written quotes on request).

SILICA

SILICA IS A DIVISION OF PRODIS PLC

07301304/4

MAIL ORDER

PLUS TECHNICAL AND HEAD OFFICE

081-309 1111

1-4 The Mews, Hatherley Road, Sidcup, Kent, DA14 5SS

PLUS BRANCHES AT:

CHELMSFORD Tel: 0245 355511
Debenhams (2nd Floor), 27 High St, Chelmsford, Essex, CM1 1DA

CROYDON Tel: 081-688 4455
Debenhams (2nd Floor), 11-31 North End, Croydon, Surrey, CR9 1RQ

GLASGOW Tel: 041-221 0088
Debenhams (5th Floor), 97 Argyle St, Glasgow, Strathclyde, G2 8AR

IPSWICH Tel: 0473 221313
Debenhams (2nd Floor), Westgate Street, Ipswich, IP1 3EH

LONDON
52 Tottenham Court Road Tel: 071-580 4000
Debenhams (3rd Floor), 334 Oxford St Tel: 071-493 3735
Selfridges (Basement Arena), 369 Oxford St Tel: 071-629 1234

MANCHESTER Tel: 061-832 8666
Debenhams (3rd Floor), Market Street, Manchester, M60 1TA

SIDCUP Tel: 081-302 8811
1-4 The Mews, Hatherley Road, Sidcup, Kent, DA14 4DX

SOUTHEND Tel: 0702 468039
Keddies (2nd Floor), High St, Southend-on-Sea, Essex, SS1 1LA

To: Silica, PCFOR-0694-55, 1-4 The Mews, Hatherley Rd, Sidcup, Kent, DA14 4DX

PLEASE SEND A BROCHURE ON THE CITIZEN RANGE

Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms: ..... Initials: .....

Surname: .....

Company (if applicable): .....

Address: .....

.....

.....

.....

..... Postcode: .....

Tel (Home): .....

Tel (Work): .....

Which computer(s), if any, do you own?

..... 55AF

E&OE - Advertised prices and specifications may change - Please return the coupon for the latest information.

Roll Up, Roll up...



...for the grand opening of Bullfrog's long-awaited masterpiece *Theme Park* – exclusively within the pages of the June issue of *PC Gamer*. Not only do we have the world's first review, but there's a fully-playable demo of the game on one of our two high-density coverdisks! It's a double whammy you can't afford to miss.

Supporting attractions include exclusive first looks at *Alone In The Dark 3* (brought to you direct from Infogrames' development HQ in Lyon) and Microsoft's Space Simulator, along with a bumper bundle of reviews, including *The Settlers, Detroit, SimCity CD-ROM, Dragon's Lair, Ravenloft* and many more.

PLUS! The *PC Gamer* Readers Poll winners revealed! The first part of our mammoth *Ultima VIII* playing guide! Not to mention tips for *UFO: Enemy Unknown, Kyrandia 2: The Hand Of Fate* and *Gabriel Knight* – and a chance to win the world's most advanced CD-ROM system!

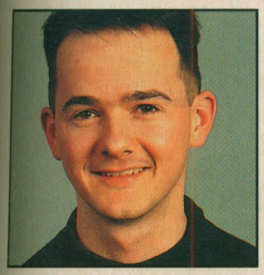
On Sale Thursday 26 May

PC GAMER

Smarter than the average PC games magazine

PCF MAIL

Get your views off your chest. Write to *PC FORMAT* Mail, 30 Monmouth Street, Bath, Avon, BA1 2BW.



Cast aside all of your preconceptions and dive once more into the bulging PCF mailbag – then write back and have your say.

Mad scramble

DEAR DAN, It's great to see the PC leading the pack as far as state-of-the-art gaming is concerned. Recent releases such as *Doom*, *SimCity 2000*, *Gabriel Knight* and *X-Wing* have been fabulous. At last we're starting to leave the consoles behind in terms of graphics, sound and gameplay.

All the major software houses are investing heavily in PC development, so I think we're going to see some incredible games starting to appear towards the end of the year. CD-ROM will also play its part, enabling programmers to try things they could only have dreamt of a few years ago. I'm slightly worried that graphical frippery might take precedence over solid down-to-earth gameplay in the next generation of games, especially if *Rise of the Robots* is anything to go by, but we'll have to wait and see.

However, as long as there are development teams such as Id, Maxis and LucasArts pumping out a steady stream of games, I don't think we've got a great deal to worry about.

But my interests don't really lie with the current crop of PC games, good though they undoubtedly are. I'm a bit of a nostalgia buff at heart and hanker after the golden days of the early 1980s when amusement arcades were filled with the likes of *Space Invaders*, *Gorf* and *Galaxians*. In terms of gameplay these machines must seem somewhat primitive to today's game-hardened techno kids, but I still get a kick out of playing them whenever I get the chance. I've collected a range of arcade classics on disk over the years, mainly on my Amiga, but increasingly on the PC. Microsoft's arcade series was a welcome innovation and I can't understand why someone didn't do it sooner. Buying up the rights to classic coin-ops and including all the original sound effects, music and graphics was a masterstroke and well worth the money. I can't wait for the next in the series and I bet other thirty-somethings are champing at the bit, too.

What I'm really after though is arcade-perfect representations of *Scramble* and *Mooncrester* coin-ops. These were machines I worshipped as a kid, spending an absolute fortune in 10 pence pieces. I've scoured the classifieds in all the major mags, picked my way through hundreds of shareware ads, but I've still not managed to track either of them down. Please, please tell me that you know of a near-perfect copy of either of these two classic coin-ops.
Paul Etherington, Wakefield

PCF: You and me both, Paul. The very mention of *Scramble* makes my eyes mist over in a nostalgic frenzy (it's not a pretty sight, believe me). I'm one of those sad people who checks out all the old amusement arcades when I'm on holiday, in the hope of finding an ancient coin-op or two tucked away somewhere. It's still possible to find working versions of both the coin-ops you mentioned; I remember stumbling across *Mooncrester* last year in Torquay. Better still, check out the classifieds in your local paper, you never know your luck. I managed to snap up an original *Space Invaders* machine earlier this year for £90, which now has pride of place in my hallway.

There was, in fact, a version of *Scramble* programmed for the Amiga, but it was only public domain, and wasn't really very good. I've seen nothing of either *Scramble* or *Mooncrester* on the PC, but who knows, someone reading this might take pity on us and start programming them right away. It really shouldn't be too much of a challenge these days. Surely one of the top demo teams could cobble something together in a short space of time. In fact, let's hold a mini-challenge of sorts: *PC FORMAT* will stump up the readies to the tune of £300 for the most impressive versions of either program and, if we can get permission, put the winning entries on an upcoming Coverdisk.

Spread the word

DEAR DAN, Ed Ricketts seemed to find the very idea of Christian software offensive in some intrinsic way [Praise the Lord, *PCF* 31]. Was I offended by his article? No, I was just saddened. Criticise the gameplay and graphics by all means – that's what your magazine is for, after all – but it was shot through with such immensely sad →

Letter of the Month

Dark side of the net

Thanks for last month's Netsurfing feature [*PCF* 32]. Comms has often been shrouded in an impenetrable layer of technical jargon which has put off the average home user from investigating further. Your 'lifestyle' treatment of the subject, although still highly informative, provided a welcome antidote to the usual techno babble and actually presented comms as a cool thing to get into. Do you intend any further coverage, such as a dedicated column each month?

I've been logging on to bulletin boards for years and it's an excellent way of meeting new people, exchanging ideas and receiving information. No matter what your interests, there will be someone, somewhere who shares them. No other medium offers such a diverse range of opinion and, with no legal controls of any kind, people can do and say what they want. What worries me, though, is that the very accessibility of the medium might be its undoing. How long do you think governments are going to put up with the free flow of electronic communication across national borders? With the Internet boasting 20 million users and doubling in size every year, it won't be long before our MPs and other 'concerned' citizens start demanding legislative controls over amateur bulletin boards and commercial services.

This would be a great shame. At the moment we have something quite unique in that the Nets are a completely open system. To introduce government sanctioned controls would help kill off the first real steps to forming an electronic global village.
Peter Stephenson, York

PCF: *Not everyone is happy with the total freedom of speech offered by the new electronic medium. Anyone who watched the recent episode of The Net on BBC2 will know that German Nazis are using the comms network to unite the various right-wing factions in Europe, and to coordinate their racist activities. Do you think we should really permit this type of racist propaganda to flourish unhindered?*

Then there are those bulletin boards that contain cracked games and pornographic pictures. Many of these have been closed down already, thanks to the diligent work of FAST (the Federation Against Software Theft). Surely you're not advocating that these boards should be allowed to carry on regardless? Comms may span borders effortlessly, but that doesn't mean those borders cease to exist or that electronic mail should be above the law of individual countries.

On the other hand, the British media's constant obsession with comms as a means of school children getting pornographic images is a tragedy. No right thinking person would demand that all newspapers and magazines should be banned because a tiny percentage feature pictures of naked women, and the same rules should apply to comms. But this is not proving to be the case, and if amateur BBS operators are forced to register their activity with the government many enthusiasts will stop providing the free service they do today.

Of course, there are many positive aspects to the free flow of information. The instantaneous nature of the Nets has led to many 'eye witness' reports of major events from around the world. Netsurfers have read about Gulf Wars, Russian coups and Chinese human rights violations as they happen, not several hours later via a television company. These reports have been live and completely uncensored, making it impossible for governments to distort or ignore events to suit their own political ends.

Comms is a unique and revolutionary method of sharing ideas. It would be a shame if the irresponsible actions of a few individuals put the entire network at risk. As for future coverage of the wired world, look out for a new comms column starting soon.

Please make Cheques/Postal orders payable to:

HOME SOFTWARE SERVICES

No 5 Crestville Terrace, Clayton, Bradford, West Yorks BD14 6DT.

We will gladly take your orders between 9·30 am and 10·30 pm 7 days a week. Please ring

0274 882992

or fax 0274 818803

PC Games

ACES OVER EUROPE 29.99
ACES OF THE PACIFIC ..... 26·99
ALIEN BREED ..... 19·99
ALONE IN THE DARK ..... 29·99
ANOTHER WORLD ..... 19·99
ALONE IN THE DARK 2 ..... 33·49
ARCHER MCLEAN'S POOL ..... 21·99
ASHES OF THE EMPIRE ..... 30·99
ATAC ..... 18·99
B17 FLYING FORTRESS ..... 29·99
BENEATH A STEEL SKY ..... 27·99
BETRAYAL OF THE CONDOR ..... 29·99
BODY BLOWS ..... 19·99
BRUTAL SPORTS FOOTBALL ..... 19·99
CAMPAIGN 2 ..... 26·99
CHESS MANIACS ..... 29·99
CHESSMASTER 4000 ..... 24·99
CHUCK YEAGERS AIR COMBAT ..... 9·99
CIVILISATION ..... 26·99
COMMANCHE MAX' OVERKILL ..... 30·99
COMMANCHE MISSION DISK 2 ..... 29·99
CONFLICT KOREA ..... 23·50
CRUISE FOR A CORPSE ..... 20·99
CURSE OF ENCHANTIA ..... 23·49
CYBER RACE ..... 29·99
CYBER WORLDS ..... 23·49
DARK SUN SHATTERED LANDS ..... 30·99
DAVID LEADBETTERS GOLF ..... 18·99
DAY OF THE TENTACLE ..... 28·99
DELTA 5 ..... 26·99
DOGFIGHT ..... 29·99
DRACULA ..... 26·99
DUNGEON HACK ..... 27·99
DUNE 2 ..... 23·99
ELDER SCROLLS ..... 28·99
EL FISH ..... 23·49
ELITE 2 FRONTIER ..... 19·99
EUROPEAN CHAMPIONS ..... 19·99
EVEN MORE INCREDIBLE MACHINES 26·99
EYE OF THE BEHOLDER 2 ..... 23·99

PC Games

FABLES & FIENDS ..... 26·99
FANTASY EMPIRE ..... 23·99
FIRE & ICE ..... 20·99
FLASHBACK ..... 25·49
FLIGHT SIM' 5 ..... 26·99
FLIGHT SIM' 5 NEW YORK ..... 13·49
FIGHT SIM' 5 PARIS ..... 13·49
FORMULA ONE GRAND PRIX ..... 26·99
FREDDY PHARKAS ..... 26·99
FRONT PAGE SPORTS PRO ..... 26·99
FURY OF THE FURRIES ..... 23·49
GABRIEL KNIGHT ..... 26·99
GENESIA ..... 23·49
GOAL ..... 19·99
GOBLINS ..... 13·99
GOBLINS 2 ..... 23·49
GOBLINS 3 ..... 26·99
GRAHAM GOOCH CRICKET ..... 22·99
GUNSHIP 2000 ..... 26·99
HARRIER JUMP JET ..... 29·99
HIRED GUNS ..... 26·99
HOYLES BOOK OF GAMES ..... 26·99
INCREDIBLE TOONS ..... 27·99
INDYCAR RACING ..... 29·99
INNOCENT UNTIL CAUGHT ..... 27·99
JURASSIC PARK ..... 23·49
KASPAROV'S GAMBIT ..... 29·99
KINGS QUEST 6 ..... 29·99
KING MAKER ..... 25·49
LEGACY ..... 33·49
LEISURE SUIT LARRY 6 ..... 26·99
LEMMINGS 2 THE TRIBES ..... 26·99
LINKS CHALLENGE GOLF ..... 15·99
LINKS 386 PRO ..... 30·99
LINKS COURSES ..... 15·99
LITIL DEVIL ..... 26·99
LOOM ..... 9·99
LOST FILES OF SHERLOCK HOLMES ..... 26·99
LOST IN TIME ..... 29·99
LOST VIKINGS ..... 23·49

PC Games

MARITIA ..... 33·49
MASTER OF ORION ..... 29·99
MONKEY ISLAND ..... 13·99
MONKEY ISLAND 2 ..... 25·99
MONOPOLY ..... 23·49
MORTAL KOMBAT ..... 19·99
NFL COACHES CLUB FOOTBALL ..... 26·99
NHL HOCKEY ..... 29·99
PATRIOT ..... 29·99
PIRATES GOLD ..... 29·99
POLICE QUEST IV ..... 26·99
POPULOUS 2 ..... 26·99
PREMIER MANAGER ..... 19·99
PREMIER MANAGER 2 ..... 23·49
PRINCE OF PERSIA 2 ..... 26·99
PRIVATEER ..... 33·49
RAILROAD TYCOON ..... 23·99
RALLY ..... 23·49
REACH FOR THE SKIES ..... 23·99
RETURN OF THE PHANTOM ..... 21·99
RETURN TO ZORK ..... 30·99
REX NEBULAR ..... 29·99
RISE OF THE ROBOTS SVGA ..... 33·49
RULES OF ENGAGEMENT 2 ..... 29·99
RYDER CUP ..... 19·99
SAM & MAX ..... 28·99
SEAL TEAM ..... 29·99
SENSIBLE SOCCER ..... 21·99
SHADOW CASTER ..... 29·99
SILENT SERVICE 2 ..... 11·49
SILVER BALL ..... 19·99
SIM CITY 2000 ..... 27·99
SIM CITY LEMMINGS ..... 21·99
SIM FARM ..... 22·99
SIM LIFE ..... 26·99
SIMON THE SORCERER ..... 26·99
SPACE HULK ..... 29·99
SPACE QUEST IV ..... 26·99
SPECIAL FORCES ..... 26·99
SPEED RACER ..... 26·99

PC Games

STAR LORD ..... 28·99
STAR TREK: JUDGEMENT RIGHTS ..... 29·99
STRIKE COMMANDER ..... 33·49
A-C SPEECH OR SPECIAL OPS ..... 14·99
SUBWAR 2050 ..... 29·99
SUPERFROG ..... 19·99
SUPER TETRIS ..... 23·49
SVGA HARRIER ..... 28·99
SYNDICATE ..... 29·99
TASK FORCE 1942 ..... 28·99
TERMINATOR RAMPAGE ..... 26·99
T-F-X ..... 29·99
THE HAND OF FATE ..... 26·99
TORNADO ..... 29·99
ULTIMA VI ..... 9·99
ULTIMA VI PART 2 ..... 29·99
UNNECESSARY ROUGHNESS ..... 26·99
VICTORY AT SEA ..... 29·99
WING COMMANDER ..... 9·99
WING COMMANDER 2 ..... 26·99
WING COMMANDER ACADEMY ..... 23·49
WORDTRIS ..... 23·49
X WING ..... 30·99
X WING IMPERIAL PERSUIT ..... 14·99
ZOOL ..... 23·49

CD ROM

ACTION CD ..... 23·49
7TH GUEST ..... 46·99
B 17 & SILENT SERVICE ..... 29·99
BENEATH A STEEL SKY ..... 26·99
CHESSMASTER PRO: KARPOV ..... 39·99
COMMANCHE ..... 33·49
COVER GIRL STRIP POKER ..... 19·99
CYBER RACE ..... 33·49
CYBER WORLDS ..... 23·49
DARK SUN ..... 30·99
DAY OF THE TENTACLE ..... 30·99

CD ROM

DRACULA UNLEASHED ..... 33·49
DUNE ..... 33·49
ECO-QUEST ..... 29·99
EYE OF THE BEHOLDER TRILOGY ..... 30·99
F15 III ..... 29·99
F117A ..... 29·99
FANTASY EMPIRES ..... 30·99
GABRIEL KNIGHT ..... 29·99
GOBLINS 3 ..... 33·49
GREAT NAVAL BATTLES ..... 29·99
HISTORY LINE ..... 25·99
HUMANS 1 & 2 ..... 26·99
INCA 2 ..... 36·99
INDY JONES FATE OF ATLANTIS ..... 30·99
IRON HELIX ..... 26·99
JOURNEYMAN PROJECT ..... 26·99
JURASSIC PARK ..... 26·99
JUTLAND ..... 39·99
KINGS QUEST 5 ..... 29·99
KINGS QUEST 6 ..... 33·49
LABYRINTH ..... 26·99
LAURA BOW 2 ..... 29·99
LANDS OF LORE ..... 29·99
LEGEND OF KYRANDIA ..... 29·99
LEISURE SUIT LARRY 6 ..... 29·99
LEMMINGS: ON NO MORE ..... 26·99
LOOM ..... 30·99
LOST IN TIME ..... 33·49
MAN ENOUGH ..... 33·49
MICROCOSM ..... 33·49
MONKEY ISLAND ..... 30·99
OSCAR ..... 19·99
POLICE QUEST 4 ..... 29·99
PROTOSTAR ..... 26·99
REBEL ASSAULT ..... 33·49
RETURN TO ZORK ..... 33·49
RING WORLD ..... 26·99
RISE OF THE ROBOTS ..... 33·49
SAM & MAX ..... 30·99
SECRET WEAPONS OF LUFTWAFFE ..... 33·49
SHADOW CASTER ..... 26·99
SHERLOCK HOLMES ..... 26·99
SHERLOCK HOLMES 2 OR 3 ..... 33·49
SPELLCASTING TRIPLE PACK ..... 26·99
STRIKE COMMANDER ..... 33·49
TFX ..... 33·49
TONY LA RUSSE 2 ..... 30·99
TORNADO ..... 33·49
ULTIMA 1-6 SERIES ..... 39·99
ULTIMA UNDERWORLD 1&2 ..... 33·49
WILLY BEAMISH ..... 29·99
WING COMMANDER 2 ..... 33·49
WOLF PACK ..... 19·99
WORLD OF XEEN ..... 33·49

Joysticks/Mice

COMMAND CONTROLLER PAD ..... 17·99
G FORCE YOKE ..... 49·99
FREEWHEEL LOGIC 3 ANALOGUE ..... 29·99
LOGIPAD ..... 16·99
QUICKSHOT AVIATOR ..... 22·50
QUICKSHOT PYTHON ..... 10·99
QUICKSHOT WARRIOR ..... 10·99
QUICKJOY TOPSTAR ..... 19·99
SALTEK MEGAGRIP ..... 13·99
SPEEDKING ANALOGUE ..... 14·99
QUICKSHOT MOUSE-SERIAL ..... 15·99
MOUSE MAT/GREY, RED, BLUE ..... 2·50
MOUSE HOUSE ..... 2·50

3·5" Disks/Boxes

10 X DS HD + LABELS ..... 7·99
20 X DS HD + LABELS ..... 15·50
50 X DS HD + LABELS ..... 37·50
100 X DS HD + LABELS ..... 72·99
500 X DS HD + LABELS ..... 350·00
10 CAPACITY BOX ..... 2·99
25 CAPACITY BOX ..... 3·99
40 CAPACITY BOX ..... 5·99
80 CAPACITY BOX ..... 8·99

ALL DISCS ARE BOXED AND INCLUDE LABELS

Please be aware of your machines specifications, as software cannot be exchanged once despatched.

THIS IS JUST A SELECTION OF THE SOFTWARE AND ACCESSORIES THAT WE SUPPLY. EDUCATIONAL AND BUSINESS SOFTWARE ALSO AVAILABLE, AS WELL AS AMIGA, CD32, ATARI & MAC, SO PLEASE RING!

"Mailorder software and consumables for the home computer user"

Date:	I own a PC.....and wish to purchase:	Price:
Name:	1)	
Address:	2)	
	3)	
	4)	
	My Visa/Access no. is: _ _ _ _ / _ _ _ _ / _ _ _ _ / _ _ _ _	
Postcode:	My Credit Card expiry date is: _ _ / _ _	Postage/Packing:
Tel:	Signature:	FULL TOTAL:

Credit cards will only be debited once your goods have been despatched

VISA Access MasterCard

PC Format June 94

POSTAGE & PACKING
£1·00 PER ITEM
£1·50 FIRST CLASS
£3·00 EEC

All prices subject to change without notice. Goods despatched on cheque clearance, and new titles sent on day of release. E & OE. N.B. Some titles may not be released at the time of going to press, and all items listed are subject to availability.

NATIONAL CURRICULUM*

Reach the top with .....

LCL Self-Tuition Courses

"The programs are invaluable revision aids" PC HOME.
Totally comprehensive courses (each is a compilation of 24 programs with a book and manual).
...of excellent quality (eg."*Excellent value for money, easy and fun to use" PC HOME)*
.....with far too many topics to list, but some examples are:

MICRO FRENCH (Beginners - GCSE) 24 programs — NEW. COMPUTER TALKS!
Real speech • Graphics adventure game • Talking cartoon etc

MICRO SPANISH (Beginners - GCSE & Business) 24 programs Computer Talks NEW
Real Speech • Graphics adventure game • Talking Cartoon
Vocals by Pictures • Business letter generator • Soundblaster Music etc

MICRO GERMAN (Beginners - GCSE & Business) — NEW. COMPUTER TALKS!
Real speech • Graphics adventure game • Business letter generator etc

MICRO MATHS (11 years - GCSE) 24 programs — HELPS YOU PASS GCSE
Sound Blaster Music •Algebra • Geometry • Trigonometry • Statistics • Arithmetic etc

MICRO SCIENCE Physics, Chemistry, Biology (8 years - GCSE) — "GHI software Choice"
24 programs • Tuition • Practical experiments • Learning by pictures etc

MICRO ENGLISH (8 years - GCSE) 24 programs — NEW. COMPUTER TALKS!
Spelling • Punctuation • Grammar • Literature etc

PRIMARY MATHS COURSE (3-12 years) — It's fun & it really works
24 programs • Tables • Add • Subtract • Divide • Multiply (Long & Short) • Fractions etc

MEGA MATHS (A level course)
24 programs • Calculus • Algebra • Geometry • Full-screen graphs etc

NO NEED TO PHONE AROUND WE ARE ALWAYS IN STOCK

£5 OFF TOTAL FOR 2 COURSES, £10 OFF FOR 3, £17 OFF FOR 4
(*All appropriate LCL Courses are National Curriculum compatible & run on almost all PC's - no extras needed.) £24.99 per course all inclusive. Cheques/P.O payable to "LCL".
Send orders/ "free poster catalogue" requests to:
LCL (DEPT PCF), THAMES HOUSE, 73 BLANDY ROAD, HENLEY-ON-THAMES, OXON RG9 1QB

VISA **Phone 0491 579345 (sent in 24 hrs)** Access

PC SHAREWARE

PRICES:
(per 3.5" HD Disk)
1-10 : £2.00
10-20 : £1.75
20+ : £1.50

All prices include P&P, for recorded delivery add £1.25, please ring for prices of other disk formats. Please make cheques and postal orders payable to AJB Software - sorry no credit cards.

AJB SOFTWARE

27 BROADMEADOW,
PRESTON, LANCS,
PR5 5SF
0772 620612

GAMES

G0001- RAPTOR (2 disks) New vertically scrolling shoot 'em up from Apogee, requires minimum 386.

G0002 - DOOM (2 disks) The best shareware game so far from ID Software. A 3D shoot 'em up where you battle demons across Mars and through Hell itself. Requires min 386 and 4 MB RAM.

G0003 - DOOM Map Editor. Modify existing levels and create new ones, supplied with several example levels. Note that any new or modified levels can only be used with the registered version of Doom.

G0004 - BLAKE STONE - ALIENS OF GOLD. Sci-fi version of Wolfenstein from Apogee.

G0005 - HALLOWEEN HARRY The latest platform game from Apogee, with 256 colour VGA graphics.

G0006 - DUKE NUKEM 2. Duke is back in this scrolling platform shoot 'em up.

G0007 - EPIC PINBALL. Excellent but very difficult scrolling pinball game, with incredible multiball play!

G0008 - SILVERBALL. PD demo of Epic's commercial pinball game.

G0009 - XARGON. A new platform game from Epic, in the style of Jill of the Jungle.

G0010 - ZONE 66. 360 degree scrolling shoot 'em up from Epic.

G0011 - WOLFENSTEIN. The classic 3D maze shoot 'em up. Fight your way through a horde of evil Nazis as you escape from Castle Wolfenstein.

G0012 - EPIC BASEBALL. New baseball simulation from Epic Megagames.

G0013 - SANGO FIGHTER. Street Fighter 2 style beat 'em up, with superb graphics and sound effects.

G0014 - KING ARTHUR. Strategy game set in dark age Britain, you must defeat rival knights and conquer the country. VGA graphics and speech.

GRAPHICS

GR001 - FRACTINT v18.2. The latest version of the excellent DOS based fractal generator, more features than it's possible to list.

GR002 - GRAPHICS WORKSHOP v6.1. Handles most graphics file formats, allows conversion, sharpening, palette reduction, rotation etc.

GR003 - GRAPHICS WORKSHOP for Windows.

GR004 - NEOPAINT v2.0. The best DOS based 256 colour paint package.

GR005 - NEOSHOW. Build presentations from graphic images created in Neopaint or other packages.

GR006 - ENVISION PUBLISHER v1.5. DTP package from the makers of Neopaint and Neoshow.

GR007 - PAINT SHOP PRO for Windows. Allows viewing, manipulation and viewing of most graphic formats. Also converts graphics between formats.

GR008 - GENERIC CAD. Full featured 2D CAD package.

GR009 - PROTOCAD 3D. CAD package which supports 3D rendering in addition to the usual functions.

GR010 - FRACTINT for Windows. Windows version of the popular fractal program.

GR011 - PAGE PLUS LITE. Shareware version of the excellent Page Plus Windows DTP package.

BUSINESS

B0001 - PC WRITE v4.1. Advanced word processor.

B0002 - MARKET EDGE. Stockmarket analysis.

B0003 - PAGE CHEQUE BOOK Personal finance manager.

B0004 - PARITY. Windows based stock charting and technical analysis package.

B0005 - WINCHECK. Windows based personal finance manager.

B0006 - DATA MASTER. Database.

B0007 - KWICKSTAT. Comprehensive statistics package.

HOBBIES

H0001 - ASTRO. Astrological charts for Windows.

H0002 - BROTHERS KEEPER. Excellent popular genealogy program.

H0004 - ASTRONOMY LAB for Windows, plot positions of all planets and stars for any date or time.

H0005 - SKYMAP for Windows. Another excellent Windows astronomy program.

H0006 - GODSWORD for Windows.Biblical quotation system.

UTILITIES

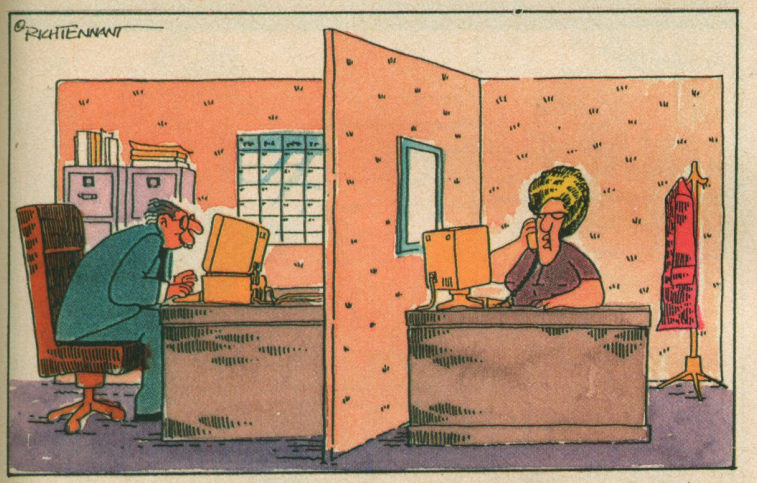
U0001 - PKZIP v2.04. Latest version of the well known PKZIP compression software.

U0002 - ARJ v2.39. Latest version of the ARJ compression software.

U0003 - PGP v2.3. Pretty Good Privacy, a public key encryption package.

Shareware programs require separate payment to authors if found useful

The 5th Wave by Rich Tennant



"I'M SORRY, BUT MR. HALLORAN IS BEING CHASED BY SIX MIDGETS WITH POISON BOOMERANGS THROUGH A MAZE IN THE DUNGEON OF A CASTLE. IF HE FINDS HIS WAY OUT AND GETS PAST THE MINOTAUR HE'LL CALL YOU RIGHT BACK; OTHERWISE TRY AGAIN THURSDAY."

→ closed-mindedness that it made rather pitiful reading.

There are a lot of Christians in the world. A lot of them will have PCs and many of them will applaud the aims of ALIVE. Does that make us all fanatics? No, we are just ordinary people who know God and are happier and richer (although not financially) for that knowledge. I am writing this just before going off to a St Patrick's day mass, after which I'll be off to down a few Guinnesses – how ordinary can you get?

Are we all part of some world-wide conspiracy to bend people's minds, as seems to be implied by the article? No, but the happiness and spiritual wealth that knowing Christ gives is not something that is to be kept to ourselves – it is there, offered freely, for all to share in.

To try to spread the Good News (this is no empty phrase) in whatever form possible is admirable. To wilfully try to denigrate that attempt is shallow and unworthy.

N J Kelly, Winchester, Hants

Alive and kicking

DEAR DAN, Your reporter, Ed Ricketts, must have had some hidden agenda in writing such a vitriolic and sarcastic article about ALIVE Software. Before letting my children use the software, I checked out ALIVE's *Bible Paint and Learn* program for myself. It was excellent fun, quite apart from the refreshing Christian content that is included.

You do not have to be a nuclear scientist to understand the correlation between young children watching violent video games and the same children having an increased propensity to emulate what they've seen on screen in real life. Surely ALIVE should be congratulated for producing an alternative to violent video games. Having read the article one is left wondering who is the real fanatic – Mr Buff or Ed Ricketts?

Mr C Bradley, Bristol

PCF: Ed replies: I hope the agenda was far from hidden. I hope it was obvious that this article purposefully represented one viewpoint: the argument against Christian software and the pointlessness of it all (especially if it's of the current standard) when there are so many other ways to 'teach' religion. To my mind, religion has no place in software. You might disagree, but what would you think if a Satanist title appeared, catering for those who happen to worship the Devil? That's another 'religion', yet I'm sure you'd be horrified to see it.

I'm also worried that the blossoming of Christian software will only add to the already ridiculous control the censors have over film, video and game content. As for the correlation between violent video games and real-life violence, nothing has ever been proved conclusively on this matter and I suspect nothing ever will be. If you're offended by violent software, don't buy it.

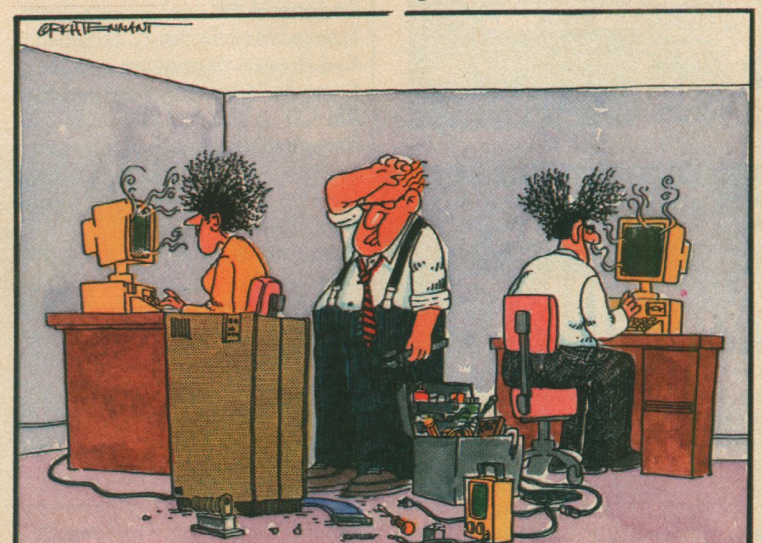
SimBandage

DEAR DAN, Your idea for a Judge Dredd-inspired version of *SimCity* sounds good fun, but I'd like to see Maxis take a more microscopic view of a city and concentrate on the individual building blocks. I'd like them to examine how a tower block functions or a hospital works in relation to the rest of the city. For example, a hospital consists of an emergency ward, general wards, an operating theatre, kitchens, a maintenance department, administrative offices, cabling and sewage systems, auxiliary generators, storage and delivery areas, a fleet of ambulances and lots more besides. All these elements interact with each other and the surrounding metropolis, so the game could be just as complex as *SimCity 2000* but concentrate on just one element. It would be interesting to see how the hospital would cope with a major disaster or a Saturday night influx of drunken soccer hooligans.

Charles Bait, Harlesden

PCF: Check out Bullfrog's upcoming *Theme Park* sim (previewed last month) for a game on similar lines. Great idea, though. Personally, I'd like to see *SimPrecinct*, a game that puts you in control of a sprawling shopping centre. You would have to build up a security force to deal with shop-lifters, ram raiders and take care of video surveillance, then →

The 5th Wave by Rich Tennant



IN A DISPLAY OF PERVERSE BRILLIANCE, CARL THE REPAIRMAN MISTAKES A ROOM HUMIDIFIER FOR A MID-RANGE COMPUTER BUT MANAGES TO TIE IT INTO THE NETWORK ANYWAY.

SHORTS

Fit your letter on to a postcard and you're more likely to get a reply.

LAST YEAR I BOUGHT A COPY OF the *PCF* Gold issue which reviewed and rated almost every PC game ever released. This has proved an invaluable reference source for me, so I'm wondering if you intend to publish an updated version later this year.

Bob Bray, Skelmersdale, Lancs

PCF: There are no plans for such an update in the foreseeable future, but if enough readers request it, then we might be tempted to publish one later on in the year.

I AM IN THE PROCESS OF FORMING a *Falcon 3/MiG-29/Hornet* network group. Would it be possible to forward my telephone number to other dedicated 'fighter jocks' who might want to know more about such a venture? Anybody interested can contact me on ☎ 0628 662424.

Dominic Silk, Burnham, Bucks

PCF: Consider it done.

I HAVE JUST READ CLUB CALL IN *PCF* 31 and I was very surprised to see that you referred to Wizards' Guild as "the world's first MUD". In fact, there are hundreds of MUDs all over the world and many have been going for quite a few years. They have even changed their name due to the fact that they are not all Dungeon-based and 'Tolkienesque' and are now known as Multi-User Dimensions. I'm an avid fan of MUDs because they are a good way of meeting people from all around the world and they are, of course, exciting. I recommend that anyone with a modem have a go.

Duncan Rance

PCF: The MUD operated by Wizards' Guild can be traced back to the very first MUD, started in the early 1980s. Watch out for a feature soon.

CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR new position. As a subscriber to *PCF* I was a little concerned to see Mark Higham leave (I thought of him as a friend, even if he did look a bit like Michael Bolton), but I'm sure you'll do everything in your power to make the magazine even more of a success.

I wonder if you commission work from freelance writers as there doesn't appear to be anything in the editorial to hint at your policy. I've got a number of ideas for articles and I would like to see them in print.

M L Sketchley, Birmingham

PCF: Actually over a third of *PC FORMAT* is written by outside freelancers. I'm always open to suggestions and ideas for future articles or features. Drop me a line with a brief synopsis of your ideas and we'll take it from there.

ACTIVITY Software

PC SHAREWARE
AMIGA PD
FROM 89p PER DISK

SEND 25P STAMP FOR A
FREE CATALOGUE DISK
STATING WHICH COMPUTER

141 EFFINGHAM STREET,
ROTHERHAM,
SOUTH YORKSHIRE S65 1BL
TEL: (0709) 829286
FAX: (0709) 838068

TOP QUALITY UNBRANDED DISKS
(LABELS NOT INCLUDED)

	3.5" DS/DD	3.5" DS/HD
50	£19·00	£28·50
100	£35·00	£50·00
200	£64·00	£90·00

FREE UK DELIVERY!

Access VISA

Karlton - London
Special Offers
For a Limited Period

Karlton's Top Twenty

Microsoft Word 6	Win	£189	MS Visual C++ Pro	Win	£199	Corel Draw 4.0	Win	£199
Microsoft Excel 5	Win	£189	Freelance Graphics	Win	£189	MS FoxPro V2.5	Win	£189
Microsoft Access 1.1	Win	£189	PC Tools V2.0	Win	£69	Lotus AmiPro 3.01	Win	£189
Microsoft Project 3	Win	£189	WordPerfect 6	DOS	£189	MS PowerPoint	Win	£189
MS Visual Basic Pro V3		£189	Microsoft Office	Win	£289	Harvard Graphics 2	Win	£149
Lotus 123 V2.4/3.4	DOS	£189	Lotus Smrt Suite 2.1	Win	£289	Microsoft Works	Win	£79
Lotus 123 V4.01	Win	£189	Wordperfect 6	Win	£189			

Other Specials!!

HP Laserjet 4	£929	Paradox/Win	£79	Lotus Works 3	£69	MS Visual Basic	£79
Windows 3.1	£39	MS Publisher 2	£69	Object Vision	£45	Corel Draw 3	£99
Lotus Organiser	£39	Mitsumi Drive	£99	SuperBase V2	£149	CA Simply Busns	£69
Data Perfect	£99	DOS 6.0	£39	Windows Wrk Grp	£49	PageMaker 5	£399
		QuattroPro 5	£45	DBase IV/V2	£189		

Tel: 081 778 0908 Fax: 081 778 4886

Prices exclude delivery and VAT (17.5%) Delivery £7 + VAT
VISA - MasterCard - EuroCard - Amex

Official Orders Accepted

E & OE Availability, Prices and Specifications are subject to change without notice. All sales are subject to Karlton's Standard Conditions of Contract. Copies available on request.

Worldwide Export and Trade Enquiries are also invited
Karlton - London Limited
30 Metro Centre, Kangley Bridge Rd, London SE26 5BW
(Next to Lower Sydenham BR Station - Callers by appointment)

Karlton - London

Commodore C64 EMULATOR

This excellent pack gives your PC the ability to run Commodore 64 games exactly like an original Commodore! -Full graphics display, and sound emulation -Even supports Sound Blaster. Includes Basic and 5 Classic C64 games

Includes disk and tape support (diagrams included) This is one of our best ever packs! Why not buy our additional games pack (£5) -which includes a further 10 C64 games. Reqs 286 or above (386 & VGA rec)

In all, a superb program! £5

Quality Clip Art Packs

Clip Art packs 1-3 each contain over 500 high quality images in popular PCX format

£5 each

One formats and over all specific areas also available

Sound Blaster

Requires Sound Blaster compatible card

Includes

Drum Blaster: Turns your SB equipped machine into a drum machine. Guitar riffs, voices rhythms etc

InTune: 150 .ROL sound files, and player.

ModPlay: Play/modify .MOD files. Selection also included.

Vocals: Selection of .VOC files also!

£5

sinclair Spectrum Emulator

This excellent pack gives your PC the ability to run Spectrum games (even 128K programs) exactly like an original Spectrum! Includes Basic and 3 top games. Supports CGA-VGA and Sound Blaster

Includes diagrams to wire up to a tape player or spectrum! Why not buy our additional packs (£5 each) -**Additional Emulator pack** includes CPC, C64 & ZX81 emulators. **Additional games pack** includes 12 more ZX spectrum games.

In all, a superb program! £5

Doom -£5

£5 each

Classic Arcade Pack

Hang on tight!

£5

Includes
Overkill
Star Goose
CD-Man
Clone Invaders
Mario Brothers
Warheads

Reqs VGA

Colour Clip Art

Business & Cartoon

Over 75 colour images in each pack in fully scaleable WMF format. Easily imported into many Windows programs (Word, Corel, Pagemaker etc)

Prices are ALL inclusive

DM Computing
The Beeches
Burrington Drive
Shobrooke
Crediton
Devon
EX17 1AU

VISA Access

"Open All Hours"
0363 775721

Programs are IBM PC shareware

ARCADE GAMES PROGRAMMING

Learn how to **write your own arcade games** for the PC with this superb package for the aspiring games programmer. The **AGP Booklet** has over 125 pages packed full of detailed information explaining how low level techniques are used to **program the video hardware** for maximum speed and how you can **create your own libraries** of fast games routines. Find out about **Sprite Masking**, Flicker-Free **Animation**, **Screen Handling**, **Collision Detection** and much, much more. **PLUS** you will also receive the **AGP disk** containing a **games library**, library **routines**, **demo programs** and a playable **arcade game** demo level along with **all** the **source code** and data used to create these programs. The disk also contains the **AGP Sprite Editor** and other useful utilities.

Only £19.95 + £2.00 p&p (Overseas add £2.00)
Simply send your Name, Address and Cheque or Postal Order payable to:
AGP Enterprises, Dept PCF6, P.O.Box 1, Ipswich, Suffolk, IP1 4DU

ADVERTISERS INDEX

Activity Ltd 156
AGP 156
AJB 154
Benetech Systems 80
Bluepoint 34
Brunel Computer Services 124
CD ROM User Group 149
CD Rom Direct 136, 137
Core Design 42
Creative Labs 47
Datel Electronics 122
Daze Marketing Ltd 35
Digital Almanac Company Ltd 149
Direct Software 125
DM Computing 156
Electronic Arts 14,15,63
Epic Megagames 29
Europress Software Ltd 38
GC Associates 124
Hawkwell Electronics 132
Home Software Services 154
House of CD Rom ..... IBC
Imagineer UK 18
Impressions 6
Intermediates/Spec Reserve 131
ISIS Distribution 92
Karlton-London 156
Klystron 100
Knowledge Box 77
LCL 154
Logic Sales 146
Manga Videos 56
Matrix Leisure Services 47
Matters Media/Microprose 67
Mediatec 136
Microsoft 23
Logitech 73
Ocean Media 94
On-Line Now Ltd 136
Only the Best 80
Orchard Software 47
Osprey Computer Services 116
Owl Associates 77
PC Action 126
PC Independent User Group 132
PD Selections 138
PD Soft 141
PHOENIX 132
Planet Data 50-53
Powermark PLC 150
Premier Mail Order 132
Red Dragon Shareware 86
Romedia Interactive Services 21
RSL CD 47
Selective Software 143,107,151
Silica Systems Ltd (SDL) 149
Simply Computers 28
Software Plus 132
Soho Soundhouse 90
Strategic Plus 136
Stree Software 59
Supervision 77
TECHMATE UK 146
Teque London 89
The Software Business 136
Trevan Designs Ltd 136
Universal Shareware IFC,3,105
US Gold 132
Villa Shareware 136
Vision Shareware 150
Wave Electronics 112
Western Systems 100
Winsport

The 5th Wave by Rich Tennant



"...AND FOR THE HIGH-TECH MAN IN YOUR LIFE, WE HAVE THIS LOVELY PC ON A ROPE."

→ suitable approach roads and parking spaces would have to be built, stores designed, sprinkler systems put in place... Disasters could include fires, a sales stampede and a visit from the health and safety inspector. What do other readers think? Have you got an idea for a sim that's a bit off the wall?

Food for thought

DEAR DAN, Your recent news piece entitled Has the PC Bubble Burst? (*PCF* 30) was food for thought. I remain unconvinced that the high price of software is the main culprit for the faltering rise in the sale of PC games, and it has long been my view that the capital cost of the hardware and the PC's clumsy operating system are far more relevant factors.

If the price of the game was the key factor then how do we explain the runaway success of the console sector where games are, for the most part, just as expensive (and often more so) than PC games. Also, while it is true that there tends to be a price differential between PC and Amiga games, both the article and your response to the letters in the same edition overstated this somewhat. Many Amiga games are as expensive as the PC version, and it is becoming quite common for new Amiga releases to sell for £39.99 and very occasionally more.

The real problem is that the PC is still an expensive machine. You'd be silly to buy one just to play games on it. Even if you did, many youngsters would not find it easy to get games to run. I have only a few PC games (I use my Amiga for this purpose) and each one has its own boot-up disk necessary to configure sufficient base or expanded memory together with the device settings appropriate for each game. This is a considerable nuisance, especially on first acquiring a game. With the Amiga the kids can simply pop in the game disk from the moment it is purchased and away they go, without any hassles or aggravation whatsoever. A PC setup capable of playing the latest games would easily cost twice as much as an Amiga 1200 with a good monitor.

I also find the old argument that piracy forces up software prices rather spurious. If this was true then what's the explanation for the high price of console games? Surely cartridges should be the cheapest format of all. The main problem, as I see it, is that most people don't accept that there is anything wrong with pirating software. Many, if not most, see the copying of software as perfectly normal and view it rather as they might view travelling at 80 miles per hour on the motorway, evading income tax or copying a pre-recorded cassette – illegal, but morally acceptable. Until this attitude changes you will never stop it.
Graham James, Thruxton, Hants

PCF: I used to edit an Amiga magazine, so I'm only too aware of the PC's somewhat clumsy operating system. I'm sure it has put off many potential users in the past. It's something Microsoft is attempting to address in its next generation OS software which will completely replace DOS – see Tomorrow's World on page 26 for further details.

I also agree that the PC works out as an expensive games machine. Games are all very well, but if that's all you want to do with your PC, you might as well go out and buy a console. *PC FORMAT* tries to offer the best of both worlds: we have a comprehensive games section, but there are also other sections which show off what else the PC is capable of.

Everyone agrees that piracy is a bad thing and hopefully CD-ROM is a step in the right direction, although the price of CD-ROM cutters is coming down and pirate CDs are beginning to flood the market. Maybe the credit card-sized PCMCIA cards are the answer. These are extremely difficult to reproduce because each card has to be manufactured individually. PCF

SHORTS

HELP! I'M ATTEMPTING TO PUBLISH a fanzine dedicated to Creative Labs' Sound Blaster card but I'm having trouble drumming up support. I've tried advertising the magazine in *Loot* and the local paper, but I've been told that I would have to pay a business rate. Since I'm still a teenager, coughing up the best part of £175 for a credit card-sized advertisement is a little beyond my means. After all, the fanzine is only going to cost 25 pence, so I'm hardly going to make my fortune from it. Could you print my name and address in a forthcoming issue so I can gauge how many people would be interested in contributing to the fanzine or even taking out a subscription.
Robert Sullivan, London

PCF: Anyone interested in helping Richard can contact him at: 45 Hillview Gardens, Hendon, London, NW4 2JJ.

I AM LOOKING FOR A PC GAME based on cricket. I know of several cricket games that have appeared on the Amiga, but have had no luck tracking down a cricket sim for the PC.
Lorenzo Villagra, Mexico City, Mexico

PCF: You could waste your money on a copy of *Ian Botham's Cricket* from Celebrity Software (*PCF* 9, 6%), but you would be better advised to wait until Audiogenic releases its forthcoming cricket sim, *Graham Gooch's World Class Cricket*. Full review next month.

I WAS SURPRISED TO READ your interview with Microtime Media's Daniel Bobroff [*PCF* 32]. Were you desperate for someone to interview that month or did you receive a back-hander for giving him so much publicity? In-game advertising must be the lowest trick a games publisher can pull. I don't mind watching movie trailers on video because these can be skipped by punching the fast forward button, but advertising that appears in games can't be avoided. You've *got* to play past the Chupa Chups scene in *Zool* or the Penguin biscuits that make up one of the levels in *Robocod* – you don't have a choice. After forking out £40 for a PC game, I don't expect to be subjected to this type of insidious advertising. So you can probably understand my anger when I came across your three-page interview with Bobroff and his advocacy of in-game ads.
Mark Smith, Fleet

PCF: I can understand your worries over in-game advertising, but I think you're getting worked up unnecessarily. The Penguin biscuits in *Robocod* were hardly noticeable and certainly didn't interfere with the gameplay, likewise the Chupa Chups in *Zool*. I'm just dreading coming across a Durex ad in *Leisure Suit Larry*.

CLUB CALL

If you want to get in touch with a group of fellow PC enthusiasts, then Club Call is the only place to look. Each month we'll be highlighting a leading PC club.

Name .....CD-ROM User Group
Address.....*48 Ashdown Road, Bexhill, East Sussex, TN40 1SE*
Tel .....*0424 730326* **Fax**.....*0424 438467*

WE'VE COME A LONG WAY SINCE *Tomorrow's World* announced the coming of CD discs and promptly covered one in marmalade to prove how indestructible they are. Audio CDs have gradually replaced vinyl LPs and now their offspring, CD-ROM, is about to do the same to the floppy disk. Already software publishers such as EA are predicting that by 1995 almost all their product will be released on CD-ROM first, with floppy versions merely an afterthought.

So, if you haven't bought a CD-ROM drive yet, you'd better start saving those pennies, and if you already own one then you might be interested in joining the CD-ROM User Group. For an annual subscription of £29.99, you'll receive a monthly eight-page newsletter packed full of news and reviews, plus details of a members' exchange library and an excellent discount scheme which can save you pounds off high street prices. New members are also entitled to choose a free CD from a number of specially selected titles as well as an HD disk packed with useful CD-related utilities. Definitely worth a look.

PC FORMAT MAIL ORDER

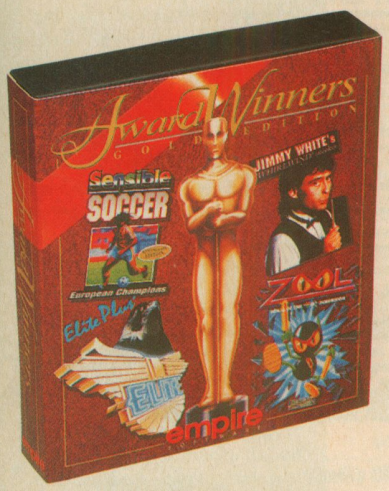
PCF MAIL ORDER

THE SAFER WAY TO BUY!

On this month's menu of bargain-busting special offers we serve up a hand-picked selection of the best in PC software bargains.

Special Offers Hotline

Contact us direct on 0225 822511



AWARD WINNERS GOLD EDITION

Feast your eyes on this lot! Four classic games are bundled together in this compilation from Empire. Try your hand at Gremlin's superb platform extravaganza, *Zool;* David Braben's excellent space trading combat game, *Elite Plus; Jimmy White's Whirlwind Snooker* and classic kick-about *Sensible Soccer.*

Description *Award Winners Gold Edition*
RRP £34.99
Reader Price £29.99
Order Code PCFAWC

SAVE £5

ULTIMA UNDERWORLD 2

The ultimate PC role-playing game and one that you can't afford to miss. A perfect blend of 3D graphics, super-smooth scrolling and rivetting gameplay, and one of the best games available on any computer. When we reviewed *Underworld 2* in issue 18 we awarded it the deservedly massive score of 93%.



Description *Ultima Underworld 2*
RRP £39.99
Reader Offer Price £34.99
Order Code PCF047

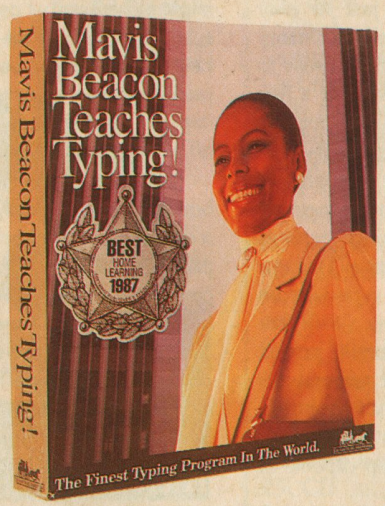
SAVE £5

MAVIS BEACON TEACHES TYPING

If you're all fingers and thumbs when it comes to typing (which, come to think of it, you should be), then here's the ideal program to increase your words per minute from something bordering on pitiful to a speed that challenges the most professional typists. This touch-typing tutor is capable of training even the most inept two-finger typist.

Description *Mavis Beacon*
RRP £29.99
Reader Offer Price £14.99
Order Code PCF014

SAVE £15



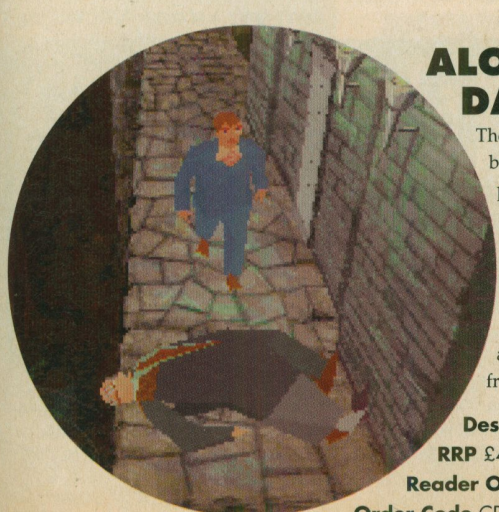
TFX

State-of-the-art flight sim gives you the chance to take to the skies in three of the world's most famous high-tech aircraft – the Eurofighter 2000, the F-117A Nighthawk and the Lockheed F-22. A huge series of worldwide topical campaigns in Somalia, Bosnia and the Middle East provides you with hundreds of missions to hone your flying skills. *TFX* scored an impressive 82% in issue 28 of *PC FORMAT.*



Description *TFX*
RRP £44.99
Reader Offer Price £39.99
Order Code PCFTFX

SAVE £5



ALONE IN THE DARK CD

The CD-ROM version of *Alone in the Dark* combines cinematic camera angles with smooth polygon-based animations for a truly absorbing game. Set in a haunted house and the frightening catacombs and caverns beneath, it's a revolutionary adventure that's packed with brain-mashing puzzles and superlative special effects. A classic CD-ROM title and one we awarded a hefty 85% in issue 29. Comes with free extra game: *Jack in the Dark.*

Description *Alone in the Dark* CD
RRP £44.99
Reader Offer Price £34.99
Order Code CDRTAD

SAVE £10

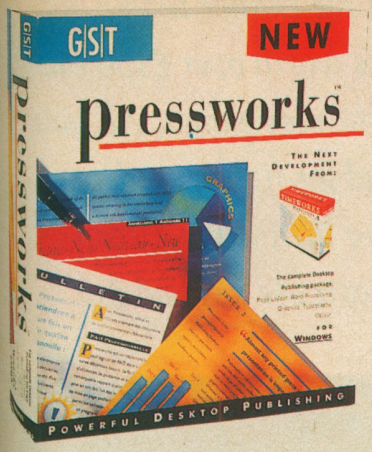
BENEATH A STEEL SKY

Massively entertaining graphic adventure which scored an enormous 87% in *PCF* 28. The sophisticated Virtual Theatre game system creates a believable gameworld in which the characters live their lives. The background graphics (which were drawn by comic artist Dave Gibbons) add immensely to the brooding futuristic atmosphere. It's one of the best adventures we've seen in a long time.



Description *Beneath a Steel Sky*
RRP £39.99
Reader Offer Price £34.99
Order Code PCFBSS

SAVE £5



PRESSWORKS FOR WINDOWS

Pressworks is ideal for the home DTP enthusiast. Powerful features enable you to produce stunning full-colour magazines, leaflets, adverts, CVs and letters. There are a dozen templates, a thesaurus and a vast range of clip-art and fonts. You can import text from almost any word processor, and also utilise its Object Linking and Embedding (OLE) feature. With an easy-to-use interface, *Pressworks* is the ideal DTP program for novices and advanced users.

Description *Pressworks*
RRP £99
Reader Offer Price £79
Order Code PC983

SAVE £20

DASHBOARD 2.0

Dashboard provides a compact panel from which you can launch programs with a click of a mouse button, print a file by dragging it to an icon, swap printers easily, and it keeps close tabs on how much memory your applications are using. It also gives you push-button control over just about everything you want to do in Windows – giving instant access to all your program groups and programs, whether they are iconised, maximised or hidden.

Description *Dashboard 2.0*
RRP £58.69
Reader Offer Price £35.65
Order Code PC980



SAVE £23



CHECK ✓ IT PRO: ANALYST FOR WINDOWS

IRQ conflicts, DMA errors and incompatible video drivers – they happen to us all. But *Check ✓ It PRO* can test virtually every part of your setup, and tell you exactly what's wrong, and it'll then recommend ways to fix those problems, in plain English. It's like having a PC expert on hand all the time.

Description *Check ✓ It Pro*
RRP £104.57
Reader Offer Price £75
Order Code PC997

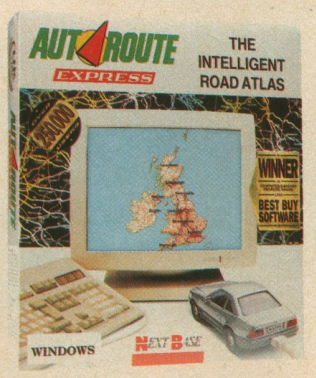
SAVE £29

AUTOROUTE EXPRESS FOR WINDOWS

Before you hit the road, check the route with *AutoRoute Express*, the highly-acclaimed, computerised road atlas with simple maps and easy-to-follow directions. Simply boot up your PC, run *AutoRoute Express*, and get a print-out of the quickest or most cost-effective route.

Description *AutoRoute Express*
RRP £149.95
Reader Offer Price £79.95
Order Code PCP0962

SAVE £70



FIVE GOOD REASONS TO BUY FROM *PC FORMAT*

All of the products featured on these pages have been carefully selected by the *PC FORMAT* team as being the best in their class.

- Prices include VAT and postage and packing. The price you see on the page is the price you pay.
- No-quibble money-back guarantee.
- Thanks to the buying power of *PCF* we offer huge discounts on RRPs.
- Peace of mind – we won't go bust!
- All goods delivered within 28 days.

PC FORMAT Priority Order Form

To order by telephone call us on ☎ 0225 822511, Mon-Fri, 8.45am-6pm.

Quantity and Description	Price	Order Code
❑ *Award Winners Gold Edition*		PCFAWC
❑ *Mavis Beacon Teaches Typing*		PCF014
❑ *Alone in the Dark CD*		CDRTAD
❑ *Ultima Underworld 2*		PCF047
❑ *TFX*		PCFTFX
❑ *Beneath a Steel Sky*		PCFBSS
❑ *Pressworks for Windows*		PC983
❑ *Dashboard 2.0*		PC980
❑ *Check ✓ It PRO: Analyst for Windows*		PC997
❑ *AutoRoute Express for Windows*		PCP0962
❑ One *PC FORMAT* binder		PCF008
❑ Two *PC FORMAT* binders		PCF009
Total price		

Delivery Details

Name .....

Address .....

..... Postcode .....

Phone Number .....

Method of payment (please tick)

❑ **Access** ❑ **Visa** ❑ **Cheque** ❑ **PO**

Credit Card No .....

Expiry Date .....

Please make sure all cheques are payable to Future Publishing Limited

Signature .....

❑ If you do not wish to receive offers from other companies, tick this box

ORDER HOTLINE 0225 822511
Our telephone lines are manned from Monday to Friday, 8.45am to 6pm.

All prices on these pages include postage, packing and VAT

■ For overseas orders call for delivery and prices

Send this form to: *PC FORMAT*, Mail Order, Future Publishing Limited, FREEPOST BS4900, Somerton, TA11 6BR.

PC FORMAT BINDER

When you've spent £3.95 on the PC world's premier leisure magazine, the last thing you want to do is lose or damage it. Our special binders are the ideal way to keep all your valuable back issues of *PC FORMAT* safe for many years to come.

Description One binder
Price £5.99
Order Code PCF008

Description Two binders
Price £11.00
Order Code PCF009



DRESSED TO KILL

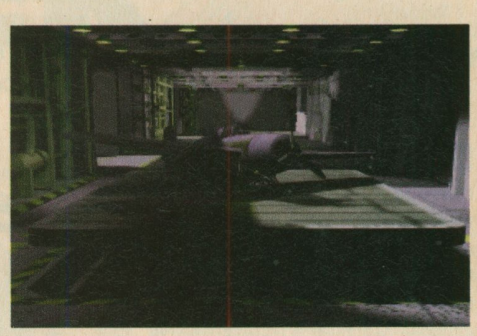
We give you the chance to win six flying jackets worth over £150 each and 24 MicroProse games. All you need is a head for figures and an atlas showing the Pacific Ocean. Okay... you can use a calculator.

To celebrate the launch of its new flight combat game *1942: Pacific Air War*, MicroProse has agreed to give away a tasty bundle of goodies. Six Tom Cruise wannabes will receive Avirex flying jackets, plus a stack of MicroProse software.

If you're one of the lucky winners, you can put your foot down in *Formula One Grand Prix* (*PCF* 17, 85%) and improve your handicap with *David Leadbetter's Golf* (*PCF* 14, 86%). You also get to keep the peace (or something) in the Middle East and Korea with *F15 Strike Eagle 3* (*PCF* 17, 65%), and if that's not heroic enough for you, how about having a go at playing God in the brilliant *Civilization* (*PCF* 31, 86%)?

All this could be yours if you can answer the following question: **What is the volume of water in the Pacific Ocean?**

Send your answer on a postcard to: **Dressed to Kill, *PC FORMAT*, 29 Monmouth Street, Bath, Avon, BA1 2DL,** including your name and address. Those people who send in the closest estimates to our figure will be strutting their stuff in their new jackets by the end of July. PCF



With a stiff breeze behind us, we should be running a full review of *Pacific Air War* next month.



THE RULES

1. Employees of Future Publishing and MicroProse are not allowed to enter.
2. The closing date for the competition is Monday 11 July 1994.
3. Multiple entries will be encased in concrete and ceremonially buried at sea.
4. Openly clever or smarmy entries will be destroyed.
5. The decision and measurements of the judges are final (and private) and no correspondence shall be entered into. At all.

On your application we'll need to know.
What colour jacket you want –
❑ beige ❑ green?
What size jacket you want –
❑ small ❑ medium ❑ large?
Do you want
❑ *Civilization for Windows*
❑ or the original version?



WIN A MOUNTAIN OF SOFTWARE

OVER £600 WORTH OF SOFTWARE

Cue cheesy gameshow music... It's Winner Takes All! One Stop Software has already cut its prices, and now it's actually giving the stuff away!

One Stop Software has delved deep into its vaults and come up with a mountain of PC software. In fact, if you won all the software we're giving away this month and then stacked it end to end, the fall from the top of the pile would probably kill you!

The idea behind One Stop Software is to turn out high-quality PC programs at an affordable price. One Stop makes savings on packaging and bulk ordering, and then passes the benefits on to the lucky consumer. The One Stop prices certainly reflect that – each of these packages comes in at under 50 quid. But hey, it's winner takes all, so get your entry in quick. All you have to do is answer these questions:

1. Who was the second man to reach the top of Everest?
2. What is the second highest mountain in the world?
3. Which top chart combo recorded the song *Move any Mountain?*

Write the correct answers on a postcard or the back of a stuck-down envelope, and don't forget to include your name and address. Then send your entry to: **Take it to the Top, *PC FORMAT*, 29 Monmouth Street, Bath, Avon, BA1 2DL.** What are you waiting for? PCF



CLIMB EVERY MOUNTAIN

So, what exactly is One Stop giving away? Are you sitting comfortably? Then we'll begin...

KEY CAD COMPLETE: And easy-to-use design program, including a professional symbol library.

KEY FORM DESIGNER PLUS: Simple program enabling you to set up and fill in purchase orders and expense reports.

KEY DATABASE PLUS: Make sure that information's at your fingertips with this data management program.

KEY CALENDAR PLUS: An appointment book, a desktop planner, a to-do list, an alarm clock, a calendar publisher and a tickler (whatever that might be).

KEY PUBLISHER: Impressive desktop publishing program with 28 fonts and 85 modifiable design templates.

KEY DRAW! PLUS: Freeform illustrator with a shape blending routine, animatics feature and 36 fully-scalable fonts.

KEY OPTIMIZER PLUS: Contact management software, which displays names and addresses and reminds you to make important calls.

KEY PROJECT MANAGER: Sort things out with this task planning package.

KEY CLIPMASTER PRO: CD-ROM library of 5,001 images all saved in a TIFF format.

KEY FONTS PRO: Library of 303 fully-scalable fonts on a CD-ROM. The fonts are both Postscript and TrueType compatible.

CLIP-ART & FONTS: More clip-art and text-styles than you're ever likely to need. Over 1,000 graphic images and 100 TrueType fonts for Windows.

VIDEO GAMBLING: Poker, Black Jack, fruit machines and Table Roulette.

LASERSOFT TOP TRACKS VOL 1: Four great-value games: *Links, Flight of the Intruder, Welltris* and *Martian Memorandum.*

LINKS COLLECTORS CD: The original *Links* game plus three new challenging courses, on CD.

ANIMAL MAGIC: Multimedia learning game, complete with six games, 50 video sequences and a digitised speech narrator.

THE RULES

1. Employees of Future Publishing and One Stop Software may not enter.
2. The closing date for the competition is 11 July 1994.
3. The first correct entry out of the hat (or other receptacle) on that date will be the winner.
4. The judge's decision is final and no correspondence will be entered into.
5. Entries inside envelopes will not be processed.
6. Multiple entries will be used as kindling for the *PC FORMAT* Summer Barbecue.

NEXT MONTH

So for the 33rd time we shuffle gloomily into the last page of the issue. But we're creatures of habit, so rest assured there'll be a 34th time. And a 35th, 36th, 37th...

Sandwiched lovingly between next issue's expertly-laminated covers you'll find the following choice selection of literary lucidity. *(Er, sorry? – Dan.)*



■ Another throbbing CoverCD, packed with game demos, utilities, graphics, music, video and sheer unadulterated love. It will include playable demos of *FIFA* and *Desert Strike*, (which will also be featured on our 3.5-inch Coverdisk). Once again only a limited number of CD copies will be available, so if you already have a CD-ROM drive make sure you get the *PCF* CD-ROM to keep you amused through the long summer nights.



■ All you need to know about keeping your PC in good health. Which bits to clean, how to replace bits that have fallen off, why it's not a good idea to use your motherboard as an ashtray (or your ashtray as a motherboard, come to that).

■ Scorching, nay radioactive, games action, in the form of Bullfrog's *Theme Park*, *Chaos Engine* (at last) from Renegade, *1942: Pacific Air War* from MicroProse, *Overlord* from VIE, and maybe *The 11th Hour* from the same gorgeous people.

■ A round-up of Windows alternative desktops. Packages such as *PC Tools for Windows 2* and *Norton Desktop for Windows* promise to make using Windows a cinch, but are they more trouble than they're worth? And what's wrong with Windows in the first place?

■ The definitive guide to joysticks, joypads, mice, trackballs and other such widgets guaranteed to make your on-screen persona respond to your every whim and fancy.

■ With games companies buying each other on a monthly basis, it's increasingly difficult to work out who owns who. We attempt to unravel the mess of subsidiaries, offshoots and mergers that calls itself the software industry these days.

■ And, of course, a seething hotbed of regular features. Technical advice bites back in Resolutions, searching questions are neatly avoided in another *PCF* Interview, a choice of hardware and software so new that it hasn't yet been invented is reviewed, and there's the next part of our graphics tutorial.

You can't buy quality like that. Well actually you can. It goes by the name of *PC FORMAT* issue 34, and it's out on Thursday 16 June. Miss it and you'll be the laughing stock of the neighbourhood. PCF



How about a ***Theme Park*** **based on the theme of waiting in a queue for five hours? Oh no, that's Euro Disney, isn't it?**

NEXT ISSUE ON SALE THURSDAY 16 JUNE

PC FORMAT

Future Publishing Ltd, 30 Monmouth St, Bath, Avon, BA1 2BW ☎ 0225 442244
Fax: 0225 446019

Editor
Dan Slingsby

Features Editor
Ed Ricketts

Games Editor
Richard Longhurst

Disk Editor
Paul Pettengale

Staff Writer
James Binns

Production Editor
Clare Johnson

Production Assistant
Jillian Werb

Art Editor
Martin Parfitt

Graphic Designer
Kevin Hibbert

Contributors
Mat Broomfield, Jonathan Davies, James Leach, Peter Lee, Rob Pegley, Cam Winstanley

Publisher
Jane Richardson

Promotions Coordinator
Tamara Ward

Advertising Manager
Duncan Ferguson

Senior Ad Sales Exec
Tim Partridge

Sales Executive
Rob Bennett

Ad Production
Freddie Wasem

Ad Design
Cherry Coad

Photography
Adrian Ford, Rob Scott, Bob Whitfield

Illustration
Andrew Humbley, Jeremy Nort Paul Kidby

Managing Director
Greg Ingham

Colour Origination
Saturn, Pre-press Services

Lino Operators
Jason Titley, Mark Gover

Printing
TPL UK

Circulation Director
Sue Hartley

News Trade Distribution
UK: Future Publishing Worldwi MMC Ltd ☎ 0483 211678

Subscriptions
Freepost, Somerton, TA11 7BR ☎ 0225 822511

PRINTED IN THE UK

PCF may not be reproduced without our written permission. We cannot accept lia bility for mistakes or misprints. Letters are assumed to be for publication. We reserve the right to edit letters for space or clarity. *PCF* recognises all copyrights in this issue. Where possible we have acknowledged the copyright holder. Please contact us if we have failed to credit your copyright – we will be happy to correct any oversight.

We regret we cannot offer advice on a personal basis, either by phone or post. Please write if you need help with PC problems.

Smart buying advice Always buy by credit card for added protection. Contact manufacturers to confirm arrangements before despatching your order. *PC FORMAT* cannot be held responsible for problems arising from contracts made with advertisers.

© **Future Publishing Ltd** 1994

£50 to the first person out of the hat who can tell us what Johnny Marr's real name is. (You know, the bloke who used to be in The Smiths.) Address your entries to: The compo that no one finds, *PC FORMAT*, 29 Monmouth Street, Bath, Avon, BA1 2DL. The prize of £50 for our April Contents compo goes to Keith Marner from the Isle of Wight who knew that Bruce Lee's real name is in fact Lee Jun Fan.

ABC **75,094** July-December 1993

Thanks to your continued support we're Britain's best-selling PC leisure magazine.

YOUR GUARANTEE OF VALUE

This magazine comes from Future Publishing, a company founded eight years ago but which now sells more computer magazines than any other publisher in Britain. We offer:

Better advice. Our titles are packed with tips, suggestions and explanatory features, written by the very best people in the business.

Stronger reviews. We have a cast-iron policy of editorial independence and our reviews give clear buying advice.

Clearer design. You need solid information fast. So our designers highlight key elements using charts, diagrams, summary boxes, annotated photographs, etc.

Greater relevance. At Future, Editors operate under two golden rules:
■ Understand your readers' needs,
■ Satisfy them.

More reader interaction. We draw on your contributions, resulting in the liveliest letters pages ever and the best reader tips in the whole of the known Universe. Buying one of Future's magazines is just like joining a huge nationwide user group.

Better value for money. More pages, better quality – magazines that you know you can trust completely.

Future PUBLISHING

The home of Britain's finest magazines

PC FORMAT ■ PC Plus ■ PC Answers ■ ST Format ■ Amiga Format ■ Amiga Power ■ Amiga Shopper ■ AF Specials ■ Sega Power ■ Total! ■ Commodore Format ■ Amstrad Action ■ PCW Plus ■ Superplay ■ Mega ■ Future Music ■ Gamesmaster ■ Edge ■ PC Gamer ■ CD-ROM Tod

Try before you buy!

HOUSE OF CD ROM is an establishment solely dedicated to multimedia. Our primary objective is to offer you the very best help through the tangle of technology which is CD-ROM multimedia today.
Not being tied to any particular manufacturer means that we can offer impartial advice in the choice of CD-ROM DRIVES and SOUND CARDS. We also believe that friendly helpful technical support is paramount.
So before you buy, contact HOUSE OF CD ROM to audition your multimedia upgrade or CD-ROM title.

CD-ROM & MULTIMEDIA SHOWROOM

- We have the country's most comprehensive range of CD-ROM titles for you to try.
- Hear the differences between sound cards.
- Sound cards by Creative Labs, Gravis, Orchid, etc.
- A wide range of multimedia PCs from as little as £1100.
- Test the speeds of leading CD-ROM drives by Toshiba, NEC, Panasonic, Mitsumi etc.
- *COMPREHENSIVE MAIL ORDER SERVICE.*

WARNING!

There are many incompatibilities and inconsistencies that currently exist between sound cards, CD-ROM drives, software and host computers. When you buy a multimedia upgrade from the HOUSE OF CD ROM we will use our knowledge and experience to help you choose which sound card and CD-ROM drive will be the most suitable for your needs.

WORRIED ABOUT FITTING?

We can fit the hardware, install the software and test the upgrade for as little as £20+VAT. Please book in advance.

STOP.

Before you even think about buying a CD-ROM DRIVE, SOUND CARD or MULTIMEDIA TITLE

you must contact us!



HOUSE OF CD ROM

Dedicated to Multimedia

Access VISA EUROCARD MasterCard Diners Club International

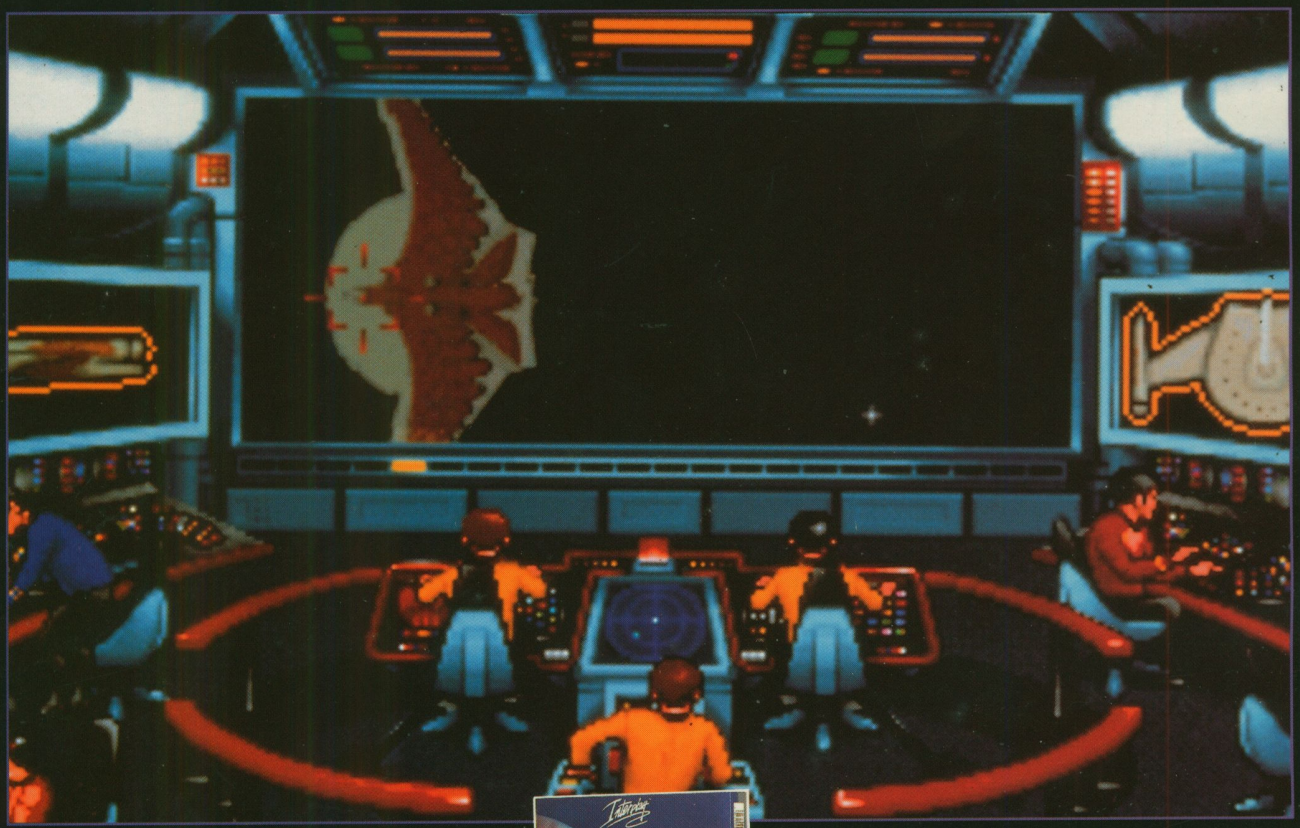
Pickwick Walk
286 Uxbridge Road
Hatch End
Middlesex HA5 4HS

081 428 9800
FAX 081 421 5152

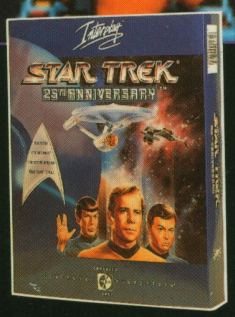
WHEN SPOCK SPEAKS

YOU WON'T

BELIEVE YOUR EARS









Now Star Trek on Enhanced CD-Rom boldly takes you where no computer game has ever gone before.

As you pilot the U.S.S. Enterprise™ through eight incredible adventures, you will visit stunning alien worlds created in 3-D with 256 colour VGA graphics. You'll need all your leadership skills to survive. And you'll need the heart of a Vulcan to stay cool when the action starts...

For a start, it features the actual voices of the entire original cast headed by William Shatner and Leonard Nimoy. There are also authentic S.F.X. and music from the series, all in mind-warping stereo sound.

STAR TREK® 25TH ANNIVERSARY

Interplay™

Interplay Productions Ltd., The Barn, St John's Yard, Main Street, Fyfield, Near Abingdon, Oxon OX13 5LN. 0865 390029.

Software © 1992, 93 Interplay Productions, Inc. All rights reserved. STAR TREK™, ® and © 1992, 93 Paramount Pictures. All rights reserved. STAR TREK is a registered trademark of Paramount Pictures.