

Computer Products

Home automation interface in your home

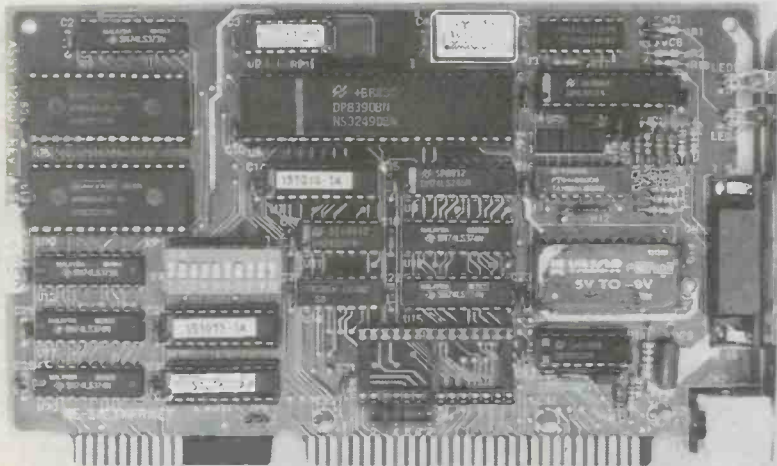
X-10 (Australia) is giving the most popular home computers something really useful to do around the home — control lights for security and safety, control TVs and stereos to wake you up or lull you to sleep, control heating and air conditioning to save energy — in short, control everything electrical in the home. This powerful new capability is available for the IBM PC and compatibles, Apple Macintosh, Apple IIe and IIc and Amiga for only \$229 (suggested retail price).

The key to this seemingly all-powerful home automation magic is X-10's new Home Automation Interface. It's a small peripheral that is actually a self-contained microcomputer with its own microprocessor, and memory backed up

by a battery that can sustain it without AC power for more than 100 hours. It sends signals over the AC wiring to control up to 256 lights and appliances plugged into X-10 modules, which in turn are plugged into convenient 240 volt outlets throughout the house.

The X-10 Home Automation Interface is a free-standing controller which plugs into any convenient 240V wall outlet. It is supplied with a cable that plugs into the interface and the serial port of the computer. The interface contains an 80C48 microprocessor with on-board ROM (read only memory), RAM (random access memory), an internal real-time clock and battery back-up.

Further information from Midac Technologies, Suite 147, 313 Harris Street, Pyrmont 2009 or phone (02) 692 9111.



Ethernet adaptor card

Electronic Solutions has just released a new line of high performance Ethernet networking cards claimed to make it possible to build a high performance networked environment at a moderate cost.

The cards are all fully compatible with all industry standard networking software and topologies, including Novell Netware (NE1000 and NE2000), Gateway G/Ethernet, DECnet-DOS, PC-NFS, TCP/IP, Net-Ware 3+, OS/2 LAN Manager, UNIX/XENIX, NetBIOS and APX.

For an example of costing, the Electronic Solutions NE-2 card, a full 16 bit Ethernet card with 16/64K RAM buffer (to support multi-packet communications), ROM support for diskless workstations, support for NetWare and all Gateway communications products and 100% compatibility with IEEE registered NODE-ID costs only \$449 incl. tax in 1-up quantities. Most other suppliers are quoting around \$850 for products to this specification.

The cards carry a 3 month warranty plus a 14 day money-back guarantee.

For further information contact Electronic Solutions, Box 426, Gladesville 2111 or phone (02) 906 6666.



486-based PCs

Australian microcomputer developer and manufacturer, Terran Computers has released a new family of 486-based desktop personal computers.

Called the Terran T-40 range, they come complete with high resolution monitor of 800 x 600 pixels (colour or monochrome), full-function keyboard, 1Mb of main memory as standard (upgradable to 16Mb), two serial and one parallel port, 25MHz processing speed and a keyboard security system which prevents unauthorised access.

Also included as standard are four IBM PC/AT compatible and one memory expansion slots, plus keyboard/mouse and floppy disk controllers as well as a hard disk adaptor.

For additional information contact Terran Computers, Unit 2, 15 Brisbane Street, Eltham 3095 or phone (03) 439 4100.

Mac versions of Protel CAD

Protel Technology is launching versions of its PBC layout programs, to operate on the Macintosh II and SE families.

The first programs to be launched will be Autotrax and Easytrax. During the first quarter of 1990 a schematic program will be available to complement the Autotrax program, providing automatic routing through schematic netlist capture.

The Macintosh versions retain all the power and functionality of the well known PC products but they faithfully adhere to the familiar Macintosh user interface.

For further information and specifications on the Macintosh versions of Protel software and/or the PC versions, contact Protel Technology, GPO Box 204, Hobart 7001 or phone (002) 73 0100.