IBM System/3 Model 6

NEW PRODUCT ANNOUNCEMENT

80-COLUMN CARD INPUT/OUTPUT CAPABILITIES: In November 1971, IBM announced that customers who need 80-column card I/O on a System/3 Model 6 will now be able to install a 129 Card Data Recorder in place of the 96-column 5496 Data Recorder. The new 80-column card capability expands the System/3's sales appeal by making it a suitable choice for users who need to retain the traditional 80-column cards for compatibility with existing systems and equipment.

The 129 Card Data Recorder is a buffered keypunch-verifer for 80-column cards; its characteristics are described in detail in DATAPRO 70 Report 70D-491-21. Any model of the 129 can be connected to the 5406 Processing Unit via a #3210 Data Recorder Attachment on the 5406 and a #7503 Card Input/Output Attachment and #3610 Expansion Feature on the 129.

When used on-line, the 129 can read up to 50 cards per minute and can punch (or punch and print on Models 2 and 3) from 12 to 50 cards per minute, depending on the number of columns punched in each card. Conversions between the 80-column card code and the System/3 code are performed automatically. When switched to the off-line mode, the 129 operates as a conventional buffered keypunch and/or verifier. All optional features for the 129 are compatible with the Card Input/Output Attachment except the Self-Checking Number feature. However, the Accumulate, Direct Punch Control, Verify Read Control, and Production Statistics features are all inoperative in the on-line mode.

Programming support for the 129 Card Data Recorder will be compatible with the support for the 5496 Data Recorder. Support for the 129 will be provided under the System/3 Model 6 System Control Programming and the RPG II, BASIC, and FORTRAN IV compilers. However, it will not be possible to read or punch object programs on the 129, nor to read or punch data in binary or packed decimal format.

Deliveries of 129 Card Data Recorders for use with the System/3 Model 6 are scheduled to begin in July 1972. Programming support will be available prior to the first deliveries. The #7503 Card Input/Output Attachment rents for $75 per month or sells for $2,625, with maintenance priced at $11 per month. Prices of the 129 models and features are listed in Report 70D-491-21.

FORTRAN COMPILER: In November 1971, IBM announced that Release 2 of the System/3 Disk FORTRAN IV compiler will be available for use on the System/3 Model 6 as well as on the Model 10. Thus, Model 6 users now have a choice of three programming languages: RPG II, BASIC, and FORTRAN. The System/3 Disk FORTRAN IV compiler accepts source programs written in the IBM System/360 Basic FORTRAN IV language, which encompasses American National Standard Basic FORTRAN. It also accepts programs written in IBM 1130 Basic FORTRAN IV with minor modifications. A System/3 with at least 12K bytes of core storage and one 5444 Disk Storage Drive is required for compilation; a program of approximately 150 source cards can be compiled and executed on a 12K system. The compiler is scheduled for delivery in December 1972 and is priced at $100 per month.

APPLICATION PROGRAMMING SERVICE: System/3 Model 6 users can now have their basic business application programs designed, generated, tested, and documented by IBM at a fixed price. The Application Programming Service, introduced in September 1971, provides programs for the Order Writing and Invoicing, Inventory Accounting and Management, Accounts Receivable, and Sales Analysis applications. The cost is $1,350 for any one application, $2,600 for two, $3,650 for three, or $4,600 for all four.

The Application Programming Service consists of four main steps. First, the user and an IBM representative fill out questionnaires defining the application and the formats of the required reports. Second, IBM processes the information at its Application Customizing Center to generate the required programs. Third, IBM tests the programs to make sure they produce the agreed-upon results, using test data and machine time provided by the user. Fourth, IBM turns over the tested application programs and associated documentation to the user. □

IBM System/3 Model 10

NEW PRODUCT ANNOUNCEMENT

80-COLUMN CARD INPUT/OUTPUT CAPABILITIES: On November 5, 1971, IBM announced that customers who need 80-column card I/O on a System/3 Model 10 Disk System will henceforth be able to install a 1442 Card Read Punch in place of the 96-column 5424 Multi-Function Card Unit, which had previously been a required component in every System/3 Model 10 installation. The new capability expands the System/3's sales appeal by making it a suitable choice for users who need to retain the traditional 80-column cards for compatibility with existing systems and equipment.

Either a 1442 Model 6 or 7 Card Read Punch can be connected to the 5410 Processing Unit via a #4130 Card Read Punch Attachment on the 5410 and a #3950 Coupling feature on the 1442. Also required is the new 5422 Disk Enclosure, which houses one or two 5444 Disk Storage Drives on a System/3 Model 10 when no 5424 MFCU is installed.

The 1442 has a 1200-card feed hopper, a single card feed path, and two 1300-card stackers. It can read or punch standard 80-column cards, or read cards and punch additional data into them during the same pass. Model 6 reads at 300 cards per minute and punches at 80 columns per second, while Model 7 reads at 400 cards per minute and punches at 160 columns per second. The rated speed for punching full cards (columns 1 through 80) is 50 cpm for Model 6 and 91 cpm for Model 7. Thus, the 1442's input and output speeds are significantly lower than those of the 96-column 5424 Model A2 MFCU—and the 1442 also lacks the card printing capability, dual feed hoppers, and four stackers that make the MFCU an exceptionally versatile card I/O unit.

Customer shipments of the 5422 Disk Enclosure and the features required to connect a 1442 to the 5410 Processing Unit are scheduled to begin in April 1972.

Software support for the 80-column card I/O option will be provided as part of the basic Disk System Control Programs and the following Program Products: Disk RPG II, Subset ANS COBOL, Disk FORTRAN IV, Basic Assembler, and Disk Sort. Henceforth, the minimum configuration required for each of these programs will consist of a 5410 Processing Unit with 12K bytes (16K bytes for COBOL), a 5424 MFCU or a 1442 Card Read Punch, a 5203 or 1403 Printer, and one 5444 Disk Storage Drive. The 80-column software support is scheduled for release in April 1972, along with the hardware. ☐

		Purchase Price	Monthly Maint.	Rental (short-term lease)
1442	Card Read Punch:			
	Model 6; reads 300 cpm, punches 80 cols/sec	14,140	51	257
	Model 7; reads 400 cpm, punches 160 cols/sec	15,255	61	370
3950	5410 Coupling (required on 1442)	1,475	1	30
4130	1442 Attachment (required on 5410)	9,310	15	190
5422	Disk Enclosure	4,900	12	100