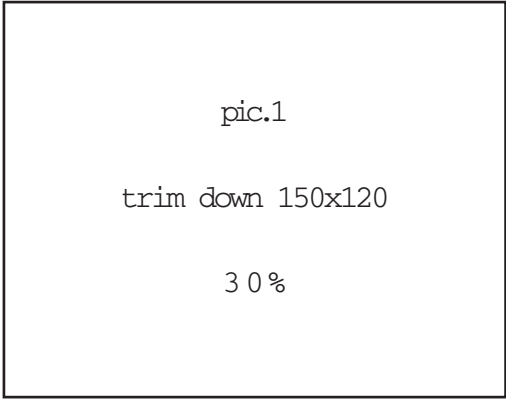


## STATE MACHINE ARE BURSTING WITH

Luton-based State Machine has expanded its colour graphics card range with the G16 Graphic Accelerator Card at £279 ex. VAT, and the ColourBurst graphics card at £399 ex. VAT. The G16 card provides 16 bits per pixel for 32768 or 65536 colours giving near photographic quality. All standard RISC OS 3 modes are updated at 50 frames per second, while other modes have at least 22-25 frames per second update for a smooth Desktop and smooth animation.




pic.1  
trim down 150x120  
30%

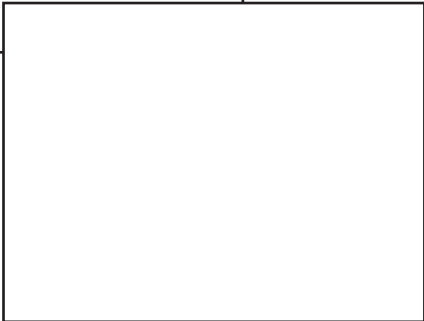
The ColourBurst card provides the professional user with broadcast quality studio graphics with 1Mb of frame store and optional daughter cards. Support software includes TrueView for optimum display of sprites, PBM, JPEG or CLEAR images, Acorn Replay in 32768 colour format for movie sequences, DeskModes for easy selection of Desktop resolutions,

and PALmaker allowing a 256 colour palette to be optimised for any part of the screen.

## STUNT RACER 2000 FROM THE FOURTH DIMENSION



From the authors of Chocks Away comes this new-look stunt car game, with ramps, jumps, mid-air twists and even loops. If that weren't enough you also need to score points and earn money to boost your car's performance for later rounds. Stunt Racer 2000 offers full 3D representation, keyboard, mouse or joystick control, instant replays, garage facilities plus 20 varied and exciting tracks. The game is scheduled for release in July at £34.95.



Other recent games from Fourth Dimension include Virtual Golf at £34.95 and Demon's

## ACORN RELEASES FLOATING-POINT ACCELERATOR

Acorn Computers has at last released its floating-point accelerator card for the Archimedes range. The FPA chip fits directly onto an A5000 motherboard, onto the A540 processor card, and similarly for the R260 Unix workstation. Any software using the floating point emulator will automatically use the FPA10 once installed. The FPA's performance peaks at 5 MFLOPS (Millions of Floating Point Operations per second) at 26MHz, and averages 3 MFLOPS for a range of calculations.

Acorn says that owners of early A540s and R260s will need a free of charge modification to their processor cards - advice is available from Acorn dealers or Acorn Customer Services. RISC iX users will require an additional software driver obtainable from Acorn Customer Services.

The FPA costs £99 (ex. VAT) from Acorn dealers. A 62-page data booklet, covering processor schematics, programmer's model, instruction set and hardware/software considerations is available from Vector Services, 13 Dennington Way, Wellingborough, Northants NN8 2RL

## THE NEWS FROM ANGLIA TV

Anglia Television Education is supplying a range of new Information Technology support packages for the Channel 4 Schools service. The packs so far announced are The Earth in Space, a Key Stage 2 datafile pack for use with Keynote on the Archimedes, In Tudor Times, again a Key Stage 2 datafile pack for the Archimedes, and The Civil War, a Key Stage 3 pack also for the Archimedes. All datafile packs are designed for use with the KEY range of software applications, and are supported by

## ACORN WORLD

Acorn World, the replacement for the autumn Acorn User Show, takes place from October 29th - 31st this year. Entrance will be £6 for adults, £3 for children, but advance tickets will be available for £5 and £2.50 respectively. This event is being organised by Acorn, so we can anticipate some changes. RISC User will be at the show, and we will be bringing you more information in future issues. For information on Acorn World contact Exhibition Planning Services, P.O.Box

## POCKET BOOK PRICE REDUCTION AND NEW SOFTWARE

Acorn has announced a special offer price of £169.95 ex. VAT on the Acorn Pocket Book valid until 30th September 1993. This saves £50 on the normal price. For education, the Class Pack of eleven machines and an A-Link is also available at £1699.50 until the same date.

New software for the Pocket Book is also scheduled for release mid-August. The Acorn Schedule comes on an SSD ROM card and combines the functions of a diary, personal organiser, a calendar and timetable. Acorn Schedule will sell for £49.95 inc. VAT, but until 30th September it will be available at a special introductory offer price of just £19.95 inc. VAT. The Pocket Book and software is available from all Acorn dealers, including Beebug, who can supply more information. Acorn

## FASTER PC EMULATION

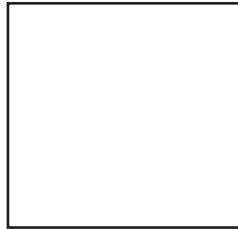
An alternative to Acorn's PC Emulator has been announced by program author D.J.Lawrence. FasterPC is claimed to be up to nine times faster than PCem, with improved sound simulation. It supports CGA, VGA and Tandy IBM PC graphics adaptors and hard disc partitions, and is supplied with a Microsoft compatible mouse driver. FasterPC will also run some software which will not run under PCem. The package costs £19.95 inclusive direct from D.J.Lawrence, 33 High Street, Farnborough, Hampshire

Matt Black has announced two new products: Vanguard Graphics Pack II - Cowboys & Indians is Matt Black's second clip art collection from artist Chris Keun in comic strip style. The cost of the pack is £15 inc. VAT. Gamer's Upgrade is a permanently installed joystick interface kit providing four Atari-type joystick ports with support for two independent fire buttons. The cost is £27.99 inc. VAT.

A new CD-ROM produced by Matt Black contains over 4000 high quality colour photographs from stock photo libraries, professional photographers and other organisations. The Photo Lib CD stores images in compressed JPEG format.

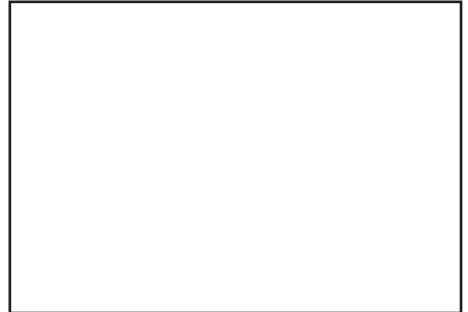
Each image is up to 485x730 pixels in full 24-bit colour which can be viewed to their full extent using graphics cards such as the G8 from State Machine. Software supplied with each CD-ROM allows all images to be converted to sprites for display in Desktop windows.

The PhotoLib CD-ROM costs £299 ex. VAT, and a demo on floppy disc is available for £5. Special Theme



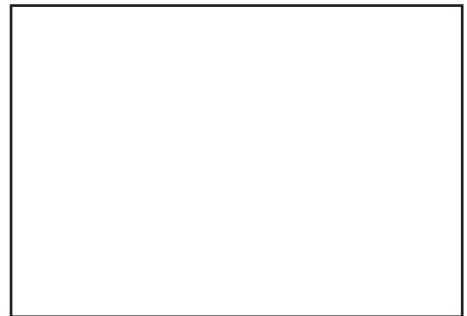
## THE EMU HAS LANDED

Cumana, perhaps best known for its disc drives and CD-ROM units, has revealed its new upgrade board for the A3000, A3010, A3020 and A4000. The EMU interface provides expansion capability for these Acorn systems allowing up to seven different products to be connected at one time: User Port, User plus Analogue Port and MIDI, SCSI, IDE, Companion (unspecified as yet), POMCIA, and a full length third party board. Cumana's rival to the Ultimate Expansion MicroModule from HCCS costs just £55.28 (£49 to education). The EMU card is also available to support Special Needs as part of an A4000S upgrade costing £126.81 (£119.50 to education). For further information



## LOW-COST SPREADSHEET FROM SILICON VISION

ProSHEET is the name of a new spreadsheet package from Silicon Vision. It has been developed specifically for the educational market with emphasis on ease of use via an icon-driven toolbox. ProSHEET includes a full range of spreadsheet functions, macros, and graphing facilities for bar, line and pie charts. All graphs are hot-linked to the spreadsheet data so that any changes are automatically reflected in the graphs. The cost is just



## PROTECT YOUR ARCHIMEDES WITH AN

IronMask is an application which protects and safeguards your Archimedes from users with mischievous intent, like disabling auto-boot, or replacing !Boot with something silly. Specialist supplier Turing Tools has announced the release of version 2.1 of IronMask which overcomes all these kinds of problem. IronMask also places

tripwires in the system to resist attempts to gain access to the Desktop without running the boot sequence and activating IronMask security.

IronMask is available at £69.00 inclusive, while existing users with version 2.0x can upgrade free of charge by returning their original disc. Site licences for schools cost £210.

## HCCS GOES ON EXPANDING

The HCCS Ultimate Expansion System continues to grow. An analogue MicroPodule is now available for £29, while two MIDI podules have been released in conjunction with Electromusic Research. These cost £49 for MIDI alone, or £69 for MIDI plus HQ sound sampler. All prices are quoted ex. VAT. Further MicroPodules are scheduled for release over the next few months.

HCCS has also introduced a 40Mb IDE hard drive at £228.94 for the A3010, £219 (including User Port) for the A3000, and only £199 for the A3020. HCCS also has a trade-up whereby users with suitable drives can trade in their existing expansion card for an Ultimate system

and the benefits of further expansion capability.

## NEW TURBO DRIVERS FROM COMPUTER

Computer Concepts has updated its Turbo Drivers and released some new ones. There is also a new Canon bubblejet printer, the BJ230, functionally identical to the BJ200 (see review in RISC User 6:5). New RISC OS 3 Turbo Drivers are available for both the BJ200 and BJ230. The Turbo Drivers including software and cable cost £49 ex. VAT on their own. The BJ200 with Turbo Driver is now £275 ex. VAT, while the new BJ230 with Turbo Driver is £319 ex. VAT. Upgrades to the latest

RISC OS 3 Turbo Drivers are free of charge to registered users.

CC has also released RISC OS 3 Turbo Drivers for Hewlett Packard printers; the DeskJet, DeskJet Plus and the DeskJet 500, and colour drivers for the 500C and 550C, again at £49 ex. VAT for software and cable.

In addition, CC has also announced a Turbo driver for the new Epson Stylus 800 printer reviewed in this issue of RISC User, again at £49 ex. VAT. Further information on Turbo

## BRITISH BIRDS WIN GOLD

A CD-ROM on British Birds, a joint venture by Acorn, the British Library and the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, produced by ILP of Newcastle, has won a prestigious gold award at the British Interactive Multimedia Associations 1993 awards ceremony. And it was the Archimedes version (reviewed in RISC User 6:8) which won the award, rather than the PC version. For more information contact Acorn Computers Ltd., Fulbourn Road, Cherry

## A DESKTOP VIGIL

Vigil is a multi-tasking program monitor/debugger which will provide essential help for programmers in any language. With Vigil you can display the contents of registers, workspace, selected memory blocks, Basic variables and their values, and Wimp messages received all while your own program is operational. Vigil also incorporates a timer to improve time critical sections, an ARM code disassembler, and a facility to disassemble modules and inspect their workspace and other parameters. Vigil will cost in the region of £25 and is expected to be available August/September from Rheingold Enterprises, 7 Waterbridge

## HAMPSHIRE EXPLORES NATURE

The Hampshire Microtechnology Centre has announced that it is the sole UK distributor for a new CD-ROM, Usborne Exploring Nature. Exploration starts from a child's study bedroom, and by passing through the windows or an open door, allows children to find flora and fauna in their correct context. A naturalists computer-based toolbox includes camera, notebook, binoculars, tape measure and other devices. Cost is expected to be around £120 with a release date of September. For more information contact The Microtechnology Centre,

## GETTING IN THE SWIM

Swimming, an 8-disc interactive multimedia pack approved by the Amateur Swimming Association and the Royal Life Saving Society UK is now available price £35.95 ex VAT. This graduated learning package has over 40 animations, more than 100 graphics with voice-overs, 17 quizzes to help the learning process, and simulations to test your knowledge. Further details are available from CD Sports Ltd., 4 Wirral Business Centre, Dock Road, Birkenhead, Wirral

trim to 90x70

60%

## NEW SOFTWARE FOR ACORN POCKET BOOK

Minders Software, a new name in the Psion Series 3/Acorn Pocket Book market, has announced four new packages for these machines: Dwarfs and Dragons costing £8.95 is a classic adventure game; Call Coster at £7.95 allows you to see how much your telephone calls are costing; Stock Control, also for £7.95, offers standard stock control functions; while Hex at £5.95 is a tool for programmers providing file dumps in ASCII and hex formats. All programs are written in OPL and are supplied on SSDs or on DOS 3.5 discs. For further information contact Minders Software, 28 Kendal Green, Kendal,

## 10 OUT OF 10

Aptly named 10 Out of 10 Educational Systems (the educational arm of Fourth Dimension) has announced that its next release for the Archimedes will be 10 Out of 10 Maths (Algebra). This pack, priced at £25.95, contains six expertly designed educational games covering ten principal areas of algebra, including patterns, sequences, formulae, graphs, equations, inequalities and symbols. The package covers topics from the National Curriculum Attainment Target 3 (Algebra), with subjects and levels of interest to children on Key Stage 1 to Key Stage 3. For further

## DARRYL THE DRAGON

Following the release of Granny's Garden (reviewed RISC User 6:6), 4Mation has now released a completely new adventure program for younger users called Darryl the Dragon. Equally suitable for school or home use, Darryl the Dragon is priced at £19.50 ex. VAT with a site licence at £39.00 ex. VAT. A set of activity sheets is available separately for £10.00 ex. VAT. For more information contact 4Mation, 14 Castle Park Road, Bamstaple, Devon EX32 8PA.

## LONGMAN LOGOTRON TALKS TO SCHOOLS

Talking PenDown is a version of Longman Logotron's PenDown word processor which can speak each letter, word or sentence as it is typed.

Talking PenDown will also read back a paragraph, a marked block or a whole document. Talking PenDown allows a child to hear when he or she has gone wrong, and can hear when a mistake has been corrected. Longman Logotron says that

classroom trials have indicated that Talking PenDown is particularly successful with older children, who find it less difficult to go back to basics when using the computer.

Talking PenDown costs £64.00 for a single pack, £190 for a primary school licence, and £330 for a secondary school licence. Registered PenDown users will be offered preferential prices. For details of Talking PenDown contact

## MONOTYPE FONTS FOR THE ARCHIMEDES

LOOKsystems of Norwich has obtained an exclusive licence to distribute the well known Monotype fonts for the Archimedes. The Monotype fonts library contains over 700 original typefaces, and LOOKsystem's first pack of 100 contains such faces as Baskerville, Garamond, Gill Sans, plus more fancy fonts such as Braggadocio, Mercurius and Poliphilius. The pack costs £95 inc. VAT. The fonts are supplied in RISC OS 2 or RISC OS 3 format with scaffold lines and kerning pairs (RISC OS 3).

Skeleton lines will be available later as a free upgrade. Further details can be



printout

## TOPOLOGIKA UPDATES

Topologika has released new versions of two of its popular educational packages. Release 2 of Peter Kilworth's art and maths pack Imagine offers all the original features but now multi-tasks, has a new kaleidoscope feature, and improved turtle graphics options. Imagine 2 is also supplied with three free Gallery discs (for slide shows etc.) and a free site licence all for £45.00 ex VAT. Upgrades from release 1 cost £10.00 ex VAT.

Topologika's Astro Earth in Space pack is also into release 2 has been extensively reprogrammed, with special Help screens and improved animation. Topics covered include sunrise and sunset, movement of the sun across the sky, seasons, movement of the moon around the earth, phases, comets, spacecraft and more. Astro 2 costs £35.00 ex VAT, and an upgrade from version 1 just £7.50 ex. VAT.