Amiga Mail News

Commodore USA Introduces the New Low Cost Amiga® 1200

Commodore Business Machines, Inc. today introduced the Amiga 1200, the company's newest 32-bit Advanced Graphics Architecture™ (AGA) based machine. The Amiga 1200 is priced as an entry level computer for the home and for specific business applications. The system utilizes the AGA custom co-processor chip set, which was recently introduced in the Amiga 4000 multimedia development system. AGA allows users to display and animate graphics in multiple, selectable resolutions using up to 256,000 simultaneous colors from a palette of 16.8 million.

The A1200 includes AmigaDOS™ Release 3, the newest version of Commodore's multitasking operating system. AmigaDOS Release 3 not only takes advantage of the AGA features, it maintains backwards compatibility with existing Amiga software. Also included in the new operating system is CrossDOS, a utility program that allows fast, easy transfer of MS-DOS® formatted files between the Amiga and MS-DOS-based computers. ''The high performance Amiga 1200 featuring AGA, CrossDOS, PCMCIA expandability, an entry level price point and compact design is a great choice as a home computer,'' commented James Dionne, president and general manager of Commodore Business Machines, Inc. ''These powerful features also make it an ideal portable presentation or training delivery system for the professional user. The A1200 is another step forward for Commodore as we continue to pursue a greater share of the home and professional multimedia markets.''

The high speed, 32-bit Amiga 1200 comes standard with one 3.5 inch floppy drive, 2MB of Chip RAM and an internal IDE interface. The A1200 has RGB digital and analog, color composite and RF modulated video outputs in multiple resolutions including NTSC and VGA. The unit also features full support for PCMCIA Standard 2.0 memory and I/O cards, with expansion capabilities up to 6MB. SCSI adapters and FAX/Modem cards that connect to

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the CPU through the PCMCIA slot are expected to be available in the near future. The system's internal 150-pin local bus edge connector provides for high speed 32-bit RAM expansion, co-processor expansion and the addition of CPU accelerators.

The base configuration Amiga 1200 is expected to be available through Commodore Authorized Resellers in early December at the Manufacturer's Suggested Retail Price of $699.00.

A500 CD-ROM and CDTV Available in U.S. at Low Price

Amiga® 500 owners can now substantially extend the capabilities of their computers by adding the new A570 CD-ROM drive to their machines for the outstanding promotional MSRP (Manufacturer's Suggested Retail Price) of $399.00 (U.S.). This offer is in effect until the end of December 1992.

The major benefits of the A570 are noteworthy and include over 600 megabytes of CD storage, compatibility with an extensive library of CDTV interactive multimedia software titles, additional RAM, and expandability options.

By adding the A570 drive to the Amiga 500 computer, users can now upgrade their machines to take advantage of CDTV, the newest trend in home education and entertainment. The uses of the diverse titles available in the CDTV software library are virtually endless; exciting games, innovative reference volumes and numerous education programs for all age groups. And all software programs take advantage of CD-Audio, with video, color graphics and interactivity. Additionally, the A570 offers Amiga 500 owners the ability to expand their computer storage capabilities with up to two megabytes of additional memory. The A570 also features an expansion port that can be used to add devices like SCSI interfaces or hard drives. The A570 can also play regular CDs and includes a volume control and headphone jack.

To ensure that the A570 will work compatibly with the user's Amiga 500, Commodore recommends that A570 buyers have their A500 computer checked and upgraded at their local Authorized Service Center. In the event that there is no local Authorized Service Center, customers will be able to contact Commodore Express® to make arrangements for compatibility testing and upgrading if required.

To speed compatibility assurance, A500 owners should check to see that their A500 has 1 Megabyte of Chip RAM installed and that the A500 has not been modified in a way that voids the original Commodore Warranty.

In the Last Issue...

In the previous issue of Amiga Mail (September/ October 1992), the *Amiga Mail News* section contained an article entitled ‘‘Commodore USA Announces Amiga CD Solution Promotion’’. That article erroneously reported that purchasers of the Amiga® 3000-25/50 or the Amiga 3000-25/100 will receive a free CDTV Multimedia Player and Interface Kit. That offer, which expired October 31, 1992, actually offered Amiga owners in the United States the opportunity to buy a CDTV Multimedia Player and Interface Kit at a reduced price.