

MicroByte

Software for the 2650

NEWSLETTER

Number 1.

MicroByte IS Ian Binnie and Martin Hood. We are in the business of writing and distributing high quality software for the 2650. Our background is as enthusiasts, who have been committed to the 2650 for almost as long as the 2650 has existed. We wrote BINBUG, a monitor ROM which replaced PIPBUG and allowed the DG640 memory mapped display to be used with the 2650.

We also wrote MicroWorld BASIC. This was produced for Applied Technology and was marketed by them. If you have used MicroWorld BASIC, then you will know what a sound programming achievement it is, being virtually 'bug free' from its release and boasting the most extensive manual to be supplied with any microcomputer BASIC.

Late in 1979, we decided that our ammassed experience in the writing and documentation of high quality 2650 software deserved a more formal arrangement. Registered as 'MicroByte', we exist to provide you, the 2650 user, with an extensive range of machine language programs that will make the 2650 as versatile as a 6800 or a Z80.

If this sounds questionable, try our products or ask someone who has. The 2650 has at last come of age.

HOW WE 'GOT YOUR NAME'

Whenever I recieve unsolicited mail, I always wonder how MY name ended up on THEIR mailing list. Perhaps then, you are wondering how we 'got your name'. You are a keen 2650

enthusiast. You have shown this either because you purchased MicroWorld BASIC (which we wrote, incidentally) or because you are listed as being a member of the 2650 ENTHUSIASTS GROUP. We are keen that as many of your style of person as possible should know we exist and what we are trying to achieve. This is why you have received our first newsletter. As we do not wish to invade your privacy if we do not hear from you we will assume that you do not wish to receive our newsletter. It also helps keep the postal bill down! If you would like to continue to be informed of the latest software developments for the 2650, please fill out the enclosed form and post it.

MicroByte's PHILOSOPHY AND ETHICS

The word 'philosophy' sounds very profound, while 'ethics' seems unrealistically moral. However, you have a right to know what to expect from us and conversely what we expect of you, and the phrase 'philosophy and ethics' sums it up nicely.

We write programs for the 2650 which are useful, thoroughly debugged, extensively documented and reasonably priced. All our applications programs are monitor independent and easily adapted to run on any 2650 system.

We try to encourage our users to utilise the ACOS cassette operating system, because it is very fast, simple and extremely reliable. As ACOS is the next best storage medium to a floppy disc, all our programs are available with tape routines to use ACOS. If you do not have

ACCS and are sure you can live without it, we also release all programs with 300 Baud Binary tape routines. (Ask for the Information sheet about ACOS if you really think you can live without it.)

We will help you if you encounter a problem with one of our programs and guarantee to fix any genuine 'bugs' in unmodified programs which are reported by registered users.

On our part, the only expectations we have of you is that you will tell us of any problems you have so we can fix them, tell others about us if you are happy with our product and service, and NOT steal from us by 'sharing' your purchases around amongst friends.

We will support your purchase of our product to the utmost.

WHAT HAVE WE GOT?

The following is a brief summary of the present offerings. More detailed PRODUCT INFORMATION SHEETS are available on request. New programs are constantly under development and our newsletter will keep you informed of what to expect.

ACCS

The ultimate cassette operating system. ACOS allows named files, block replacement, user written utilities, compatibility with other formats, very high speed, exceptional reliability and needs only a very simple hardware interface. Supplied in EPROM with Utility programs and manual with full source listing for \$45.

BINBUG

PIPBUG compatible, this monitor is available in three versions. Version 3. supports 300 Baud Binary tape routines and the DG640 VDU.

Version 4. supports ACOS, and contains an advanced VDU driver with fast and partial scrolling facilities.

Version 5.2 also supports ACOS, but has 1200 baud terminal I/O routines.

The breakpoint function displays all registers, I/O can be vectored, and the command set extended. EPROM and manual with source listing for \$30.

BASIC

The compatible BASIC. Its extensive range of commands will allow just about any program to be run. The ACOS version also supports DATA files on tape. Binary or ACOS cassette and 75 page manual for \$27.50.

ASSEMBLER

The most complete and powerful co-resident editor-assembler package ever released for the 2650. The command set of the editor is complete and consistent to make editing a pleasure, while the assembler will support up to 1024 six letter symbolic labels and uses a superset of the Signetics 2650 mnemonics. A wide range of output options and a 40 page manual makes this an invaluable program development tool. Binary or ACOS cassette and manual for \$35.

SOURCE GENERATOR

NOT 'just a disassembler', this program generates compact re-assemblable source code directly from machine code. It carefully identifies instructions, DATA, ACONS and storage and will not disassemble DATA as though it were instructions. An option allows a cross reference table to be listed and a variety of output options make this a thoroughly versatile tool for program relocation, when teamed with the MicroByte ASSEMBLER. Cassette and Manual for \$35.