MAY / JUNE 1993

An Independent Publication for Users of HP Palmtop Computers

U.S. $7.95

THE HP Palmtop Paper

THE HP 100LX!

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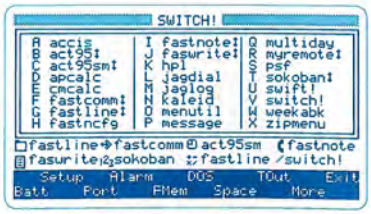

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Here is just a sample of the great software subscribers to *The HP Palmtop Paper ON DISK* have received with each issue.

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Sincerely,

Hal Goldstein

Hal Goldstein
Publisher

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Publisher's Message

Hal Goldstein

It seems Hewlett Packard listens to its customers. Feature after feature in HP's new **100LX** addresses a limitation in the HP 95LX. You'll find no PHONE file size limit on the HP 100LX. Its Appointment Book has week- and month-at-a-glance views. The 100LX has much greater IBM PC compatibility and much freer access between built-in applications and DOS. It comes with a full-featured flat-file data base program. HP has greatly decreased the possibility of losing C drive data. In addition, the 100LX provides an outlining feature, search and replace capabilities, date stamping, and more. The list of implemented customer requests goes on and on. To find out about this new technical marvel read Mark Scardina's analysis on page 6 and then my hands-on report in User to User, page 13.

There is one user concern that HP didn't address with the HP 100LX — its size. The HP Palmtop form factor is successful because you can easily carry it anywhere. Yet, many of us don't like the fact that it is difficult to type memos or reports with its diminutive keyboard. HP has a solution for that too.

Enter the **HP OmniBook 300** superportable PC. HP spent quite a bit of time talking to its key customers about what they wanted in a portable PC. Customers told HP: make it small, make it light, make its batteries last, but give me a full size keyboard. The result is the HP OmniBook 300.

The same HP Corvallis division that pioneered PC compatible palmtop computing is now staking out new ground with the HP OmniBook. HP sees the HP OmniBook as a new class of laptop, a "superportable" (page 19). Next issue we plan to give you our hands-on report, and we'll tell you if we think HP met its goal.

Many of you have asked how *The HP Palmtop Paper* is going to cover these new machines. You have also asked whether we will continue our HP 95LX coverage.

Our current subscriber base is made up primarily of 95LX users. HP will continue to sell the HP 95LX. As long as we have HP 95LX subscribers, we will continue our coverage of the HP 95LX.

We formally begin coverage of the 100LX next issue. Fortunately, many articles naturally relate to both the 100LX and 95LX. Even though this issue was designed for 95LX users, HP 100LX users will find the majority of the material relevant to them.

When 95LX users finish reading about the new HP products, they should check out the reviews on Appointment Book enhancers (page 25) and databases (page 32). The products discussed in these categories address major limitations in the 95LX and represent a good alternative to upgrading to a 100LX.

We will cover the HP OmniBook 300 superportable PC in a separate quarterly publication, *HP OmniBook World*. Expect the first issue this Winter.

We always appreciate your feedback on how to best serve HP Palmtop users in *The HP Palmtop Paper*. If you have ideas, please drop me a line or send me CompuServe E-mail [75300,2443].

Hal Goldstein

The HP Palmtop Paper

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ON DISK Index in .PBK File

I have your bi-monthly magazine, *The HP Palmtop Paper*, and *The HP Palmtop Paper ON DISK*. They're GREAT! However, I now have a lot of disks to handle. Therefore I have made an HP 95LX PHONE .PBK file describing the contents of the disks (from Fall 91 to Jan/Feb 93). So now it's easy to find where programs are located.

If you like it, you have my permission to include PTPDISKS.PBK on the next disk. Once again, thanks.

Stefan Karlsson
SWEDEN
E-Mail: sk177@lu.erisoft.se

[Great idea! We will update your Phone file each issue and include it on each issue of The HP Palmtop Paper ON DISK. 95LX and 100LX subscribers can use it – Hal.]

Wants to Start Southern California User Group

I am interested in starting a HP Palmtop (95LX and 100-LX) user's group in Southern California. While all topics related to the palmtops would be discussed, major emphasis would be placed on "power users" providing help to new users.

I am open to any and all suggestions regarding the locations for the meetings and organization of the group. I would like to schedule the first meeting around the middle of July (perhaps the 23rd). The location will be determined later in order to make it as convenient as possible for the greatest number of people, but will most likely be in either the San Fernando Valley or the Torrance/South Bay area. I would also like to hear from anyone who would like to volunteer to help get the Southern California group organized.

I would also suggest that any other readers who are interested in setting up a user's group in their area contact *The HP Palmtop Paper*. Perhaps your paper can provide hints on organization and meeting topics to help get things started.

All interested readers can contact me (see below):

David Shier
CK Technologies, Inc.
1033 Business Center Circle
Newbury Park, CA 91320
Phone: 805-498-6787
Fax: 805-498-8174
CompuServe: [75030,3374]
Prodigy: CXBG88A

[The HP Palmtop Paper would be happy to assist in the formation of HP Palmtop users groups around the world. If there is enough interest, we could publish contact information and meeting dates each issue. If any reader would like to form a users group in their geographic area, please write HP Palmtop Users Group, Thaddeus Computing, PO Box 869, Fairfield, IA 52556. Please include your name and any contact information you would like to publish – Hal.]

List contact information for software?

A suggestion: When providing information about software, please include a source of information other than CompuServe, AOL, and the *HP Palmtop Paper ON DISK*. Only occasionally do you provide the name and address of the author.

Tom Williams
Redmond WA, USA

[We do list complete contact information for commercial software. However, shareware and freeware is a different matter.

Shareware and freeware authors attempt to provide quality software at as little cost to the user as possible. These authors distribute evaluation copies through bulletin boards and other sources to keep the cost of their software down. The evaluation copies have more complete contact information in case the user wants to register his copy of the software.

Authors of these kinds of programs normally operate out of their house and don't have the resources or time to answer requests for evaluation disks. However, when authors provide us with additional contact information, we'll publish it.

Individual issues of the PTP ON DISK are available for $33 – Rich.]

HP 95LX Widower

Dear Abby,

Yesterday I made a mistake of catastrophic proportions. I showed my wife how to use HPTetris on the 95LX.

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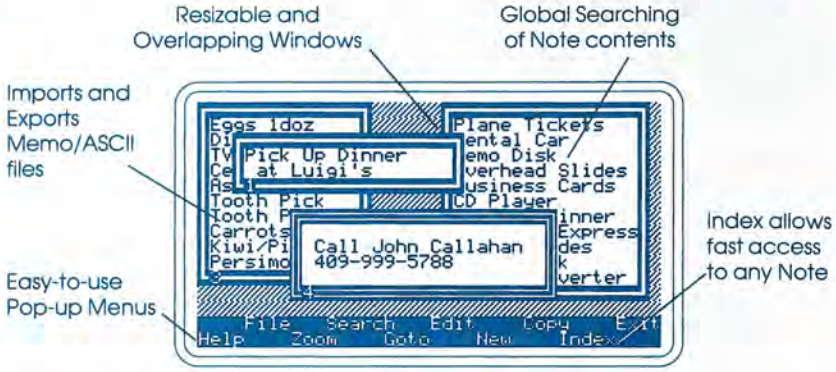

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longer pays attention to what I say. She ignores the household and seems immersed in a world of her own.

Occasionally she will exclaim nonsense such as "GOT IT!" and "Beat this score, sucker" but will not allow me to get close to it. She wanted to cancel out a long standing dinner invitation we had tonight so she could stay home and stare at that nasty little screen for hours on end. The NMH batteries died and she demanded an AC adapter. Then went back to it. How could anyone be so attached to a little electronic gadget? Abby – please give me some advice!

95LXless and Distraught
Ygal Giramberk 71332,1470

Dear Distraught,

My advice to you would be to stay by her side. This affair will be brief and when it is all over, she will need you to help her pick up the pieces of her life again. Be her rock in these turbulent times. She may be using you only as her battery supplier right now, but deep in her heart, she still loves you. Soon, this infatuation with Mr. Tetris will wear off and after she comes back to you, your relationship will be that much better for it.

If you need someone else to talk to, there is a program in the library section 7 called PKSL95.ZIP which has a file inside it called ELIZA95-.EXE and support file RESPONSE.DAT. The program was specially designed to deal with emotional problems related to the 95LX (and will run on a PC).

A final bit of advice – DO NOT show your wife Sokoban!

Abby (Stanley Dobrowski)
CompuServe ID: [71031,2162]

Use PHONE to create a Japanese/English Dictionary

As an expatriate business person living in Tokyo, I find PHONE serves as a great Japanese language dictionary, particularly for business-specific words which often aren't in the dictionary. I enter the Japanese word under Name and the corresponding English word/phrase under Number. I also code word groups with key words such as "sushi." Thus, when I am in a sushi restaurant, where you order by item at the counter, I press [F6] type in **sushi** and press [ENTER] to get a list of sushi dishes.

Ray W. Swanson
Baxter MicroScan
Tokyo, JAPAN

Albert or Mark?

I believe that the picture file ALBERT.PCX in the 1992 Subscribers Disk is not Albert Einstein, but Mark Twain. Please let me know if this is the case.

Rich Wille
Lancaster PA, USA

[ALBERT.PCX does look like one of the classic pictures of the American author, Mark Twain – Rich.]

A Case for No Case!

Who needs a case? The 'dang' thing is bulletproof. I dropped mine out of my pocket while riding a motorcycle. It bounced around the pavement a while. A car went over it, it ricocheted off a tire and bounced a few feet. I retrieved it. It had minor cosmetic damage but worked perfectly.

Hal Wyman
CompuServe ID: [73517,2754]

Needs to Read Large Text Files on the 95LX

I am an active researcher and author of scientific monographs who uses the HP 95LX for word processing and note taking.

I am working on a 400 page monograph, mainly using my Macintosh Powerbook. However, it would be handy to edit documents on my 95LX.

I bought the 10 MB Sundisk flash card, on which I was able to install some larger chunks of my book. Unfortunately, there is no way to access these large text files! MEMO and RE .EXE have a limit of about 48K. I contacted ACE, and learned that fastWrite, not yet available, has a limit of 80K. It seems strange that there is no way to be able to open up long files merely to read them. Please advise me what to do.

Professor Bela Julesz
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Piscataway, NJ, USA

[Letters continued page 56.]

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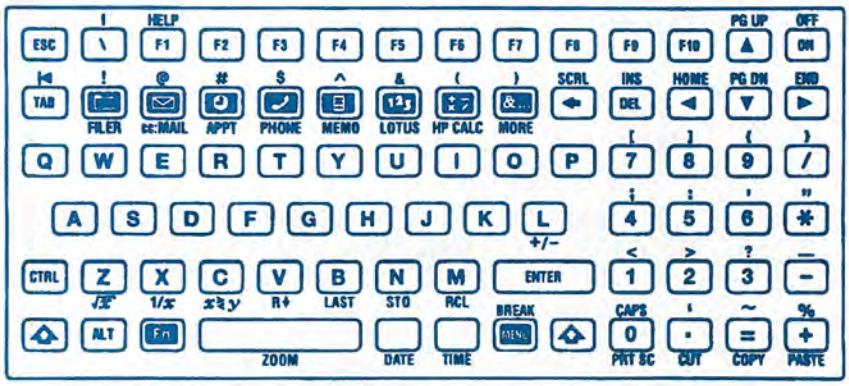
NEWS

The HP 100LX: More Than An Upgrade

The new HP 100LX is a fully PC-compatible palmtop computer with an improved library of built-in applications, a CGA-compatible display, a 9-pin serial port, and longer battery life.

By Mark Scardina

After waiting two years for the palmtop market to catch up, Hewlett-Packard has sprinted back into a comfortable lead with the introduction of the 100LX Palmtop PC. HP positioned the 95LX primarily as a Lotus companion and organizer. HP does not consider the 100LX as a replacement or upgrade to the 95LX, but is touting it as a fully capable palmtop PC. HP will continue to distribute the 95LX as it has in the past, but will distribute the 100LX through HP's PC dealer network. Retailing at $749, HP is aggressively marketing this ground-breaking product.



100LX Keyboard

Physical Size and Keyboard Layout

I was grateful to see that the strengths of the 95LX have carried over. The 100LX is the same pocket size as the 95LX and boasts the same robust construction. The most notable visual improvement is the keycaps – black letters on light gray tops. This change significantly improves readability of the keys.

Users who do a lot of text entry may bemoan the retaining of the numeric keypad. An embedded keypad could have meant larger keys and easier typing. However, the keyboard now more closely resembles a standard PC-compatible AT keyboard. The !@#$%^&() keys are now in the shifted positions above the fifth row of keys. In fact, any key that can be generated on a standard PC-compatible AT keyboard can be generated on the 100LX.

The Shift keys are in the same locations, but the CHAR key is gone. In its place is a more traditional func-

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Mark Scardina is the author of an upcoming book on the HP 100LX Plamtop PC. He is a computer consultant based in San Francisco, specializing in palmtop-based applications. He can be reached on CompuServe at [76711,732] for commercial projects.

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tion key ([Fn]), which is used to access dual key functions such as HOME, END, INS, etc (the 95LX used the SHIFT key for this). Finally, the Fn key is used to access some new shortcut keys for the CUT, COPY, and PASTE functions as well as new current DATE and TIME insert keys.

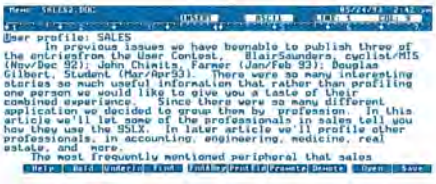
New, More Readable Display

The new display is the 100LX's next, most noticeable change. The 100LX has a 640x200 CGA compatible screen, different from the 95LX's non-standard screen. HP engineers have totally rewritten the software to take advantage of the screen. Instead of the Lotus 1-2-3-based menu system, the 100LX has a more Windows-like graphical user interface, complete with pull-down menus and dialog boxes. The higher screen resolution lets the 100LX display more characters and rows. The built-in applications now function in a standard 64-column-by-18-row mode. At this size, the characters look smoother than the 95LX characters due to their 8x12 pixel bit mapping. They are also half the size of the 95LX characters.

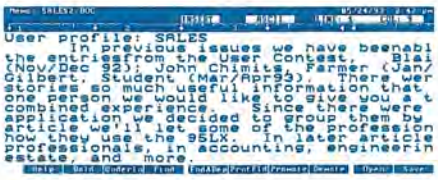
Fortunately the display mode MEMO and text-based DOS applications easily toggled to a 40x16 with the Zoom key (press [Fn]-[<Spacebar>]). This is especially handy for applications requiring extended text entry.

The 100LX characters have greater resolution. However, because the pixel ratio is different on the two palmtops, the characters on the 100LX appear squattier with greater character separation.

In addition, you can press the Zoom key combination again ((Fn) [<Spacebar>]) to toggle to a standard



100LX 64x18 display mode in MEMO



100LX 40x16 display mode in MEMO

100LX 80x25 display mode in MEMO

but small 80-column-by-25-row display. This display is a great addition for users of standard DOS programs, but try it before counting on its usefulness. My guess is that HP developed the 64x18 mode because the 80x25 mode was a bit small.

Full CGA 4 color mode is supported (colors are mapped to gray scales).

HP 95LX graphics mode is supported, which means that you can display .PCX graphics developed for the 95LX. However, the 240x128 95LX screen is mapped into a 480x128 centered window on the 100LX. Because of this, the graphic appears stretched on the 100LX.

Improved Performance

Not only has the 100LX been physically enhanced but it has been given a big boost in performance. A brand new PC on a chip from Intel has been used that is 80186 compatible and runs at 7.91MHz. This results in a 66% increase in speed. This coupled with a CGA graphics accelerator results in very impressive performance.

The total available RAM is still

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1MB, 10K to 636K of which is allocatable for System RAM. However, the 100LX has 2MB of built-in software on ROM, twice the amount of the 95LX.

Increased Battery Life; Charge Batteries Internally

Usually, an increase in performance means a reduction in battery life. This is not the case with the 100LX. My tests revealed a 66% reduction in power consumption which should effectively TRIPLE its battery life as compared to the 95LX. The 100LX can also internally charge NiCd batteries. Nickel-Metal-Hydrides are not recommended, but this pertains to charging them onboard, not in using them. Lithium batteries are also not recommended, but can be used. Remember that lithium batteries last a long time, but once they start to die, they die quickly. With lithium batteries, once you get a low-battery warning it may be too late to save files you are currently working on.

Memory Card Slot and Other Hardware Features

The single memory card slot has been retained, but it is now PCMCIA 2.0 compatible. This means that the 100LX will be able to use RAM cards up to 64MB (when they are developed). In addition, I/O cards such as modems and LAN adapters cards can be used with the 100LX, if the card is rated at 150ma or less. Because of the power drain of such devices, the 100LX should be connected to an AC Adapter when they are being used.

Another surprise is that the 100LX provides built-in support for the Sundisk flash cards. You no longer have to install drivers. Just slip the cards in the slot and you're ready to go. In fact, HP is offering both a 5M and 10M Flash cards as accessories. (HP will sell 512K and 1MB RAM cards until current supplies run out.) These are 12V cards and cannot be used on the 95LX. However, owners of the older 5V Sundisk cards can use them on the 100LX provided that the unit is off when they are inserted (recommended for all memory cards).

Existing SRAM cards work fine with the 100LX. However, if you are using specialized compression software, such as DoubleCard, you should contact the source company for 100LX setup instructions.

Serial and Infrared Ports

One cause for rejoicing is the 100LX's new serial port – it's a true RS-232 compatible port. While it still sports a proprietary connector, all of the signals are provided. This means that you will be able to use most modems with the 100LX, as well as communications and other software that relies on a standard RS-232 port.

The downside is that some communications programs may not run while System Manager is present. The IR port has been enhanced to support high speed communications. While it allows for 115K baud selection, the actual transfer speed I attained was closer to 9600 as opposed to 2400 baud on the 95LX..

New, Better, Built-in Applications

Not only has HP improved the built-in applications, but they've also doubled the number of them. (See end of article for a listing of built-in applications and their features.) HP carefully compiled thousands of customer requests and then wrote most of the software themselves. The best of the new application, in my opinion, is the new Database program. This flat file database is very flexible and a breeze to set up. In fact, it's the foundation for Appointment Book, Phone Book, and Note Taker.

DOS and System Features

Data safety and security is more emphasized in the 100LX. Most applications automatically save your data as you are entering it. While the Global Password function is gone,

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PC Memory Cards

Since many of our readers will be using RAM cards with their 100LX, we thought it would be useful to summarize the different types supported and their compatibility between the 95LX and 100LX.

One important rule to adhere to with all memory cards is to not insert or remove one in your 100LX while the power is on. The built-in applications are constantly communicating with the card, whether you're actively entering data or not. It is possible to lose data if the card is removed while this is happening.

SRAM Memory Cards:

SRAM memory cards are completely compatible and interchangeable between the 100LX and 95LX. However, ***do not reboot your 100 lx within 2 seconds of turning it on or inserting a card***. There is a card sizing routine that performs test writes to the card whenever it is inserted with the machine on or the 100LX turned on with a card in the slot. If this is interrupted by pressing either CTRL-ALT-DEL or <Shift>-CTRL-ON, the original bytes will not be restored and the card will be corrupted. It will also make the card unreadable on a 95LX.

DoubleCards:

ACE DoubleCards will work fine on the 100LX, providing the software needed to read the card is updated. You must have ACEDRV.SYS, version 2.12 installed on your 100LX. This driver is available from ACE directly or on CompuServe in Library 14 of HP Handhelds forum. If your DoubleCard has a **SHELL=C:\COMMAND.COM /P** statement and you wish to make it bootable on both a 95LX and 100LX, you should edit it to read **SHELL=COMMAND /P**. (Make sure there is a space before the "/.") You will not be able to see the uncompressed portion of the card on the 100LX as you can by going to B: drive on the 95LX.

SunDisk SDPL-5 FlashRAM/HP95 Flash Disk Cards:

SunDisk FlashRAM cards designed for the 95LX may be used on the 100LX, providing these steps are taken. ***Never insert a SunDisk HP95 card into a 100 with it turned on.*** This will cause it to reboot and all unsaved data will be lost. Set up your CONFIG.SYS on C: drive of the 100LX without using SDPDRV.SYS (the 100LX does not need it). I would also recommend using rechargeable NiCds in your 100LX as they are better suited to handle the higher current drain when writing to the card. These cards are significantly slower to write to than SRAM cards but are of higher capacity. The provided Stacker software is compatible on both machines.

SunDisk SDP-12 FlashRAM/HP100 Flash Disk Cards

The 12v SunDisk FlashRAM cards may only be used in the 100LX. ***Do not insert a 12v card into a 95LX***. The 100LX does not require software to read these cards. The 12v cards are about three times faster than the 5v ones, but this comes at a cost of much higher current consumption. NiCd batteries are the optimum choice here.

We recommend using Stacker on either of the FlashRAM cards, especially if you store a lot of small files. Any disk or memory card is divided up into minimum storage units called "clusters." On the FlashRAM cards, the cluster size is 4K. That means that a small, 40 byte file is really taking up 4,000 bytes. If you use Stacker on the card, the cluster size is 0.5K.

In summary, if you need the most disk space for the dollar and don't mind slower transfer speeds, the FlashRAM cards are an excellent choice. SRAM cards are the choice if speed is your top priority. However, the 12v FlashRAM cards are closing fast.

individual files can be password protected. One caution is that if the application is editing a file stored on a memory card, don't pull the card or you may lose data.

DOS compatibility and its accessibility has been greatly expanded on the 100LX. Besides the keyboard and display enhancements discussed above, HP has provided no less than seven ways to access the DOS prompt. I will be discussing this in more detail in future issues, but three of those ways are as follows: You can launch a program in a pre-defined partition (i.e. set aside a specific amount of system RAM for the program to run in); you can run the program from System Manager like you did with the 95LX; or you can exit System Manager completely and launch the program from DOS. With the first two methods, you can still access your built-in applications without quitting the DOS application.

One downside is that the new and improved System Manager is a larger program, taking up twice as much system RAM when running, and leaving about 420K for DOS programs. However, because the 100LX only loads small portions of its data files at a time, the size of Phone Book, Appointment Book, and other built-in application data files are only limited by the amount of disk space available (maximum of 5,000 records).

One other concern for 95LX users is that when a DOS application is launched, the default mode is CGA. Many of the third party applications written for the 95LX assume MDA mode and will launch with a blank screen. Fortunately, the graphics display mode can be switched by either the DOS MODE command or a small utility called MONO8025.COM.

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DOS 5.0 is provided in ROM, but only a small subset of the external utilities are included. Fortunately, the DOS desktop 5.0 utilities work fine.

The D drive now contains the ROM files. CONFIG.SYS and AUTOEXEC.BAT startup files are now included in ROM. In addition, the 100LX has the ability to select the boot drive on startup. This eliminates the problem encountered on the 95LX where you needed to reinitialize the RAM disk if the start up files become corrupted.

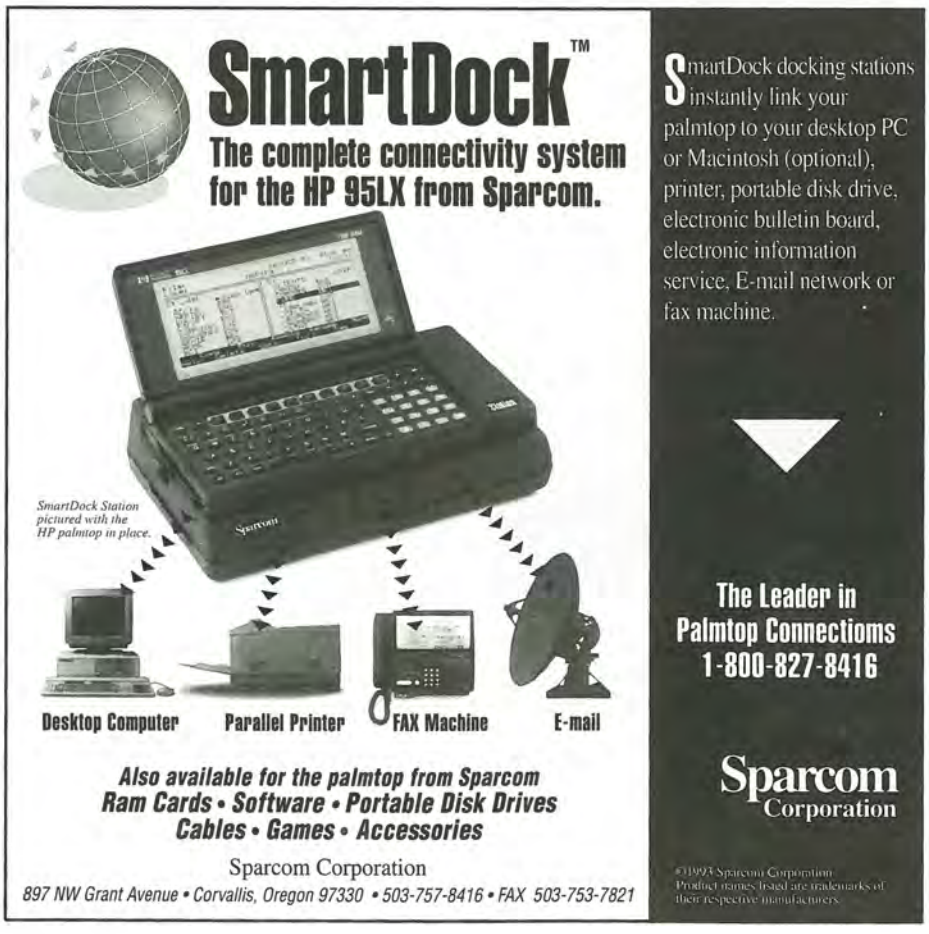
There appears to be a high level of compatibility between the 100LX and 95LX system compliant software. However, if the 95LX software was written to directly access information in specific locations of the 95LX's built-in software, there may be problems running it on the 100LX. For example, myRemote writes directly to the registers that control the 95LX's Infrared port. While these registers exist in the 100LX, they are in different locations. Similarly, 95Buddy, written for the 95LX, will not work on the 100LX. Users should contact the software developer for help.

The only 95LX feature that has been eliminated is the digital sound capability. PC sound is still available.

The Connectivity Pack should be available in late June. Until then the 95LX version can be used if you have the 100LX cable. Included with the Connectivity Pack will be a Redirector application to allow the 100LX to access a desktop PCs peripherals and drives. Expanded conversion and reconciliation utilities are promised.

Palmtop Tour-de-force

The HP 100LX once again demonstrates Hewlett-Packard's technological superiority in the palmtop arena. While some users may find the display too small or the menus not as efficient, overall the 100LX is a much more capable and easy-to-use product. The 95LX is not being discontinued and I am equally looking forward to what HP may have in store for it. Run, don't walk to your local HP dealer for a test drive.



Order Information

HP 100LX Palmtop PC – $749

HP 100LX ACCESSORIES

512K RAM Card – $299.95
(HP F1003A) Battery backed RAM card works with 100LX & 95LX (limited supply).

1MB RAM Card – $599.95
(HP F1004A) Battery backed RAM card works with 100LX & 95LX (limited supply).

5MB.12v Flash Card – $499
(HP F1012A) Solid state mass storage card with Stacker 3.0 data compression software to double the capacity to approximately 10MB (not for the 95LX).

10MB/12V Flash Card – $879
(HP F1013A) Solid state mass storage card with Stacker 3.0 data compression software to double the capacity to approximately 20MB (not for the 95LX).

Dictionary/Thesaurus Card–$149.95
(HP F1005A) Includes over 116,000 words and word forms and over 500,000 synonyms (works on 100LX and 95LX).

AC/DC Adapter (HP F1011A) – $39.95
USA/Canada Adapter (Opt. ABA)
Europe (Opt. ABB)
Australia (Opt. ABG)
United Kingdom (Opt. ABU)
South Africa (Opt. ABQ)

PC Connectivity Cable – $24.95
(HP F1015A) Connect 100LX to DOS compatible PC. Adapter allows it to connect to the 95LX 4-pin port (requires F1023A for modem/printer hookup).

MAC Connectivity Cable – $24.95
(HP F1016A) Connect 100LX to Apple PCs/MACs. Adapter allows it to connect to 95LX 4-pin port (requires F1023A for modem/printer hookup).

Connectivity Pack – $119.49
(HP F1021A) Connect 100LX to DOS compatible PCs; includes file transfer software, translation utilities, connectivity cable, and modem, printer, and 95LX serial port adapter.

Connect/Adapter Kit – $24.95
(HP F1023A) Four adapters for connecting the 100LX to modems, printers, and PCs.

Accessory Cradle – $70
(HP F1027A) Connects the 100LX to U.S. Robotics WorldPort V.42bis Modem, Skytel pager, and other products.

CONTACT: *Authorized HP computer dealers worldwide (i.e. the same place you can purchase an HP LaserJet). To locate an authorized dealer in the USA, call 800-443-1254. You can also purchase the 100LX and its accessories from EduCALC, Phone: 800-677-7001 or 714-582-2637; Fax: 714-582-1445.*

NOTE: Suggested retail price listed.

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HP 100LX Built-In Applications and Some of Their More Important Features

APPOINTMENT BOOK

Main Appointment Book Screen

- Week, Month, 6 month views
- Time line display with bar graph
- Repeat Appointments by Day, Week, Month, Year, or Custom
- Archive Feature for Appts, To-do Lists
- Launch Programs by Time
- Automatic conversion of 95LX files
- Customizable Alarm Sound
- File Auto-Save

APPLICATION MANAGER

Application Management Screen

- Allows Launching both system compliant and DOS programs
- Icon selection of application
- Status of application and memory consumed
- Manages APNAME.LST applications
- Terminate System Manager Selection

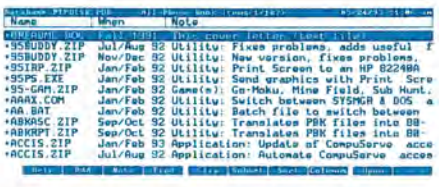
CC:MAIL

- Subset of cc:Mail Remote
- E-mail Management
- Requires cc:Mail Server

CLIPBOARD

- Single key Copy, Paste, Cut function
- Smart-Clip for quick clipping of multiple fields
- Clipboard capacity to 10K

DATABASE



Database Index Screen

- Custom databases and Fields
- 10 Field Types predefined
- Power Subset language for sorting and reporting
- Fully customizable display
- 5000 record limit with 99 fields

DATA COMM

- Xmodem, YModem, ZModem, Kermit and Text Protocols
- Programmable Function Keys

FILER

- Can Display File Tree
- Display Filter (display select files)
- Backup Function
- Text Search of files
- Go to file by typing its first letters

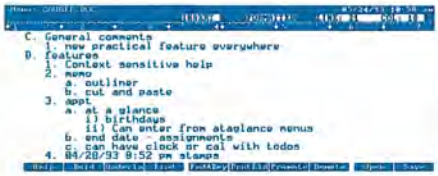
HP CALC

- Statistics Mode
- Technical math, 30 built-in functions
- Uneven cash flow analysis
- Expanded Conversion Mode
- Custom Solver Application with up to 256 variables, 69 built-in functions
- Function Graphing

LOTUS 1-2-3

- Compatible with version 2.4
- Add-in Capability
- Graphics and Database Commands
- Backsolve 1-2-3 values with Calculator
- No WYSIWYG, Mouse, Access, or Macro Library Manager
- No SmartIcons, Backsolver, Viewer or Auditor Add-ins

MEMO



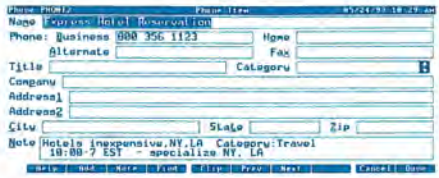
Memo Pad, Outline Option

- File size limited to available disk memory
- Built-in Outliner
- Bold and Underline displayed
- 40, 64, 80 character displays
- Insert Headers and Footers
- Search and Replace functions
- Timed backup of editing session

NOTE TAKER

- Database of Notes indexed by Titles
- Categorize and Search capability
- 5000 Notes, up to 32K each per file

PHONE BOOK



Phone Book Screen, Full Entry

- Multiple Phone Numbers
- 5000 record limit
- Search and sort on any field
- Attach 32K note
- Automatic conversion of 95LX files
- File Auto-Save
- Flexible printing capability (i.e. labels)

SET UP

- 8 Level battery indicator
- Serial Port power control
- Memory and Disk Setup
- Communication and Printer Setup
- Redirector Control

STOP WATCH/TIMER/ALARM CLOCK

- Simultaneous operation of all three functions
- Repeat Timer capability

SYSTEM MACROS

- 10 macros of up to 256 keys per file
- Chaining of macros within a file
- Macros can access macros in other files.
- Operates across all system compliant applications

WORLD TIME

World Map Screen

- World wide time for over 450 cities
- World Map with city indicator
- 5000 custom city limit
- International and City Prefix codes
- 32K Note field

The HP 100LX: First Impressions!

More than just an upgrade, the new HP 100LX provides robust organizer capabilities, a database program, greater ability to run DOS programs, and built-in cc:MAIL.

By Hal Goldstein

I visited the HP Palmtop division in Corvallis, Oregon shortly before the HP 100LX was introduced. Tim Williams, the R&D lab manager for HP Palmtops, was most enthusiastic about HP's new palmtop. According to Tim: "The HP 100LX is truly a second generation product".

After using the 100LX extensively for the past three weeks, I agree. The 100LX has opened up a whole new world of possibilities for palmtop users. There are so many features packed into this unit, I can only give you a flavor of the HP 100LX.

Where the HP 95LX Wins

Before launching into my rave review about this new product, I'll give you a couple of reasons to stay with the 95LX. First of all, the 95LX is zippier. I can do an Only [F6] search in the 95LX PHONE application on **HP** contacts or people with a **415** area code and instantly have a list displayed. Doing the same thing on the HP 100LX takes more keystrokes and might take 10 or more seconds to produce the same results. (However, if you intend to do the same search more than once, you can set up the 100LX to do it more quickly.) Another plus for the 95LX is that it's easier to read in poorer lighting situations.

Having mentioned these points, I'll now try to give you a flavor of the 100LX by describing how I've used it these past few weeks. As you'll see, for me there's no turning back — I'm a confirmed HP 100LX user.

Translating HP 95LX files

The first thing I did was move my key PHONE, APPT, 1-2-3, and MEMO files over to the 100LX. I did this by copying HP 95LX files onto a 1 Meg RAM card. I then inserted the RAM card into my 100LX and copied those files to my HP 100LX C:_DAT subdirectory using FILER. Alternatively, I could have transferred files using my IR port or by transferring files to a PC and then back to the 100LX. (The HP 100LX Connectivity Pack probably won't be available until mid-summer. However, you can purchase the 100LX connectivity cable (HP F1015A, $24.95) that plugs into the 100LX 9-pin serial port. You can transfer files using the 95LX Connectivity pack software or by using your favorite communications or PC-to-PC transfer program.)

The HP 100LX reads 95LX MEMO .TXT and 1-2-3 .WK1 files with no problem. (The 100LX default MEMO extension name is .DOC rather than .TXT. The default easily can be changed back to TXT if you wish).

TRANSLATING APPT FILES

I had a minor problem moving my 95LX APPT file to the 100LX. You see, the 100LX translates the HP 95LX PHONE and APPT files from the 95LX format to the 100LX format. Once the translation is done, you can open the file from the 100LX. When I first entered the 100LX APPT application, a file called APPT.ADB was opened. I then issued the command to translate my 95LX APPT file. The 100LX asked me to supply a new name for the translated 95LX file and I gave it the name APPT.ADB. I received a "file creation error" message because that name was already in use.

I gave the file a different name (APT.ADB) and the translation worked perfectly. I immediately tried the Week-at-a-glance and Month-at-a-glance features of the 100LX Phone Book and viewed all my appointments instantaneously.

Monthly View of Appointment Book

Print to Parallel Printers from the HP95LX

Paralink 3 is for those times you need to print to a parallel printer from the HP95LX. Just connect one end of the **Paralink 3** adapter to your printer's 36-pin female parallel port, and the other to the 95LX via the serial cable from the Connectivity Pack.

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I use ** to denote birthdays. As you can see from the above, I was able to see the May birthdays immediately. You can enter new appointments from the week or month screen by placing the cursor at the right date and time and pressing ENTER.

TRANSLATING PHONE FILES

Next it was time to translate data from PHONE – my most used 95LX application. The translation went smoothly, but I noticed that my PHONE file grew from 30K to 55K. (Fortunately, there no longer is a 64K PHONE or MEMO file limit on the 100LX). Opening a PHONE entry gave me a hint as to why the file grew (see page 12 for PHONE entry view).

As you can see, PHONE provides a number of new fields to better capture your contact information. (You can modify the default PHONE fields by reading the PHONE file into the **Data Base** application and modifying its structure. For example, you could transform the 100LX **Name** field into two fields: **First Name** and **Last Name**.)

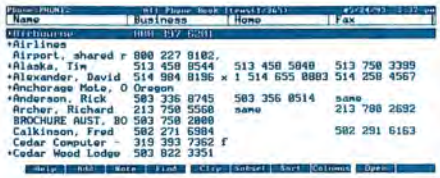
I discovered one problem translating the 95LX Phone Book file to the 100LX format. The 95LX Phone Book only has three fields; **Name:**, **Number:**, and **Address:**. The translation program copies the 95LX **Name:** field to the 100LX **Name** field, and the **Number:** field to the **Business** field. However, the 100LX translation program does not know how you have listed information in the 95LX Address field, so it doesn't know which 100LX filed to copy it to. It copies all information in the **Address:** field to the **Notes** field.

It is up to you to manually move the data from the **Notes** field to the appropriate fields in your 100LX data base, or to create macros to do this. Hopefully, by the next issue some clever programmer will come up with a less time-consuming solution.

More about HP 100LX Phone

PHONE lets me display any data field in its "Phone Book List" view (called the "Index" view on the 95LX). It also lets me select how much of each field I want to display, and in what position I want to display it. Furthermore, I can sort this list by any field. For example, if **Company** is one of the fields in my list, I could sort by Company.

I reconfigured the 100LX default Phone List to display the Name, Business (phone), Home (phone), and Fax fields (displayed in next graphic).



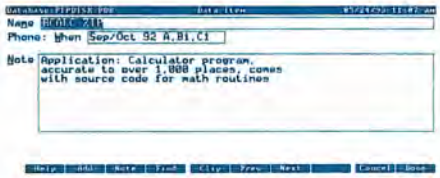
Phone Book List view

One other powerful feature of PHONE is the ability to easily print your Phone Book to a file or printer in a format of your choosing. For example, you can use the new "Smart Clip" feature to print address labels.

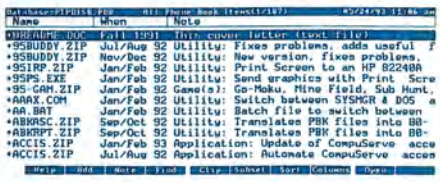
The Data Base Program

A secret of much of the 100LX's power, flexibility, and relative ease-of-use is **Data Base**, a program that underlies many of the applications. In fact **Phone Book**, **World Time**, and **Notes** are all variations of **Data Base**. Making optimal use of the Data Base application will be a topic of many future articles in *The HP Palmtop Paper*.

The two Phone Book screens above give you an example of what you can do with Data Base. Below is an example of a database that lists the files on *The HP Palmtop Paper ON DISK*.



Custom Database, individual record view



Custom Database, List view

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A quick way to enter the current date in the date field is to press Fn . (keypad comma). I can sort the List view above by the Due date field, Employee or PROJECT field. I can choose whatever fields I wish for list view.

MEMO

Memo now has more formatting capability (margins, headers, footers, tabs, underline and bold). You can now find and replace as well as search. What I like most about the new Memo is its simple yet quite useful outline feature. To start an outline in a Memo document, press F7 to "Promote" an outline point (from I. to A. to 1., etc.) and F8 to "Demote" a point. Below is an example of an outline with a Roman numeral format. You can also select a decimal outline format.

The applications normally display on a 64x18 screen. The font is smaller than the 95LX font, but very readable. You can use the "Zoom" feature in

Outline in Memo

Memo; in the NOTES field of APPT, PHONE, or DATA BASE; and in DOS text-based applications. Press [Fn] [<Spacebar>] and the Zoom feature toggles you between a 40x16, 64x18 and an 80x25 display. Here are examples of the same outline screen from Memo using the different 80x25 and 40x16 sizes.

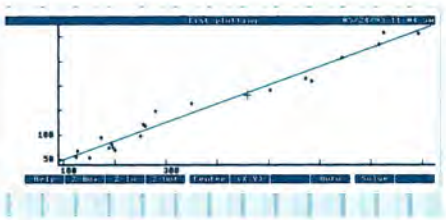
80x25 Display of Outline

40x16 Display of Outline

The cut and paste features are useful in MEMO, and extend across all the built-in applications. To mark a section of text hold down [<Shift>] and move the ArrowKeys. Once the text you want copied or cut is highlighted, hold down [Fn] and press [.] (keypad period) to Cut or [Fn] [-] to copy the marked text. Then move the cursor to another spot in MEMO or any other built-in application and press [Fn] [+] (keypad plus) to paste.

HP Calc and 1-2-3

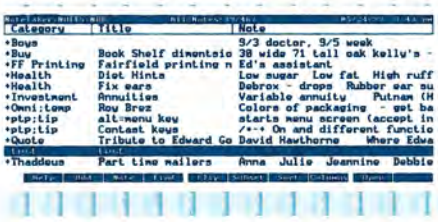
In future issues, Ed Keefe and others will discuss the newer versions of HP Calc and Lotus 1-2-3 v. 2.4. My favorite addition to HP Calc is its expanded List function now called List Stat. List Stat now offers two columns for two separate lists. The sum of each list is automatically displayed. You can also view the following statistical operations on each list: mean value, standard deviation, minimum, maximum, median, weighted mean, and group standard deviation. In addition, the 100LX will curve fit (linear, log, exponential, or power) the two columns of data on an graph with X and Y axes. For example, you can plug in two columns of data and select Linear. The 100LX will tell you how close the data is to a straight line (correlation coefficient). You can then plug in other X values to find other Ys based on the linear model.



List Stat Curve Fit graph

NoteTaker

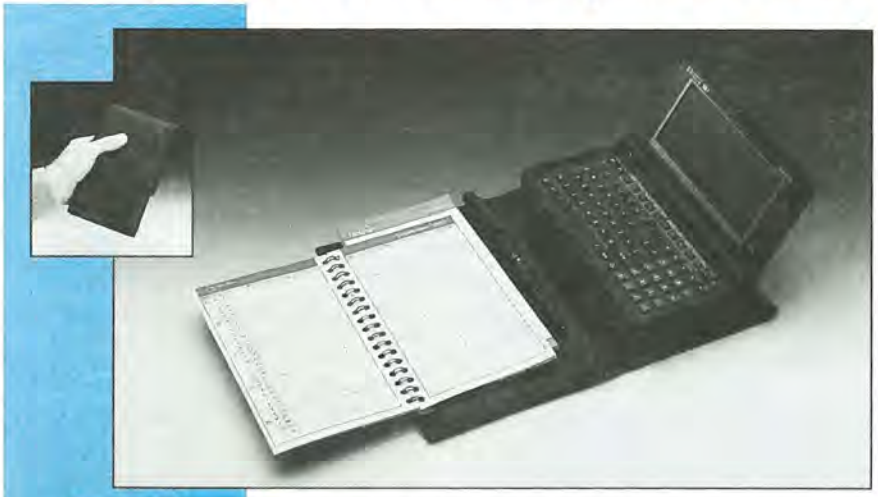
Another favorite of mine is NoteTaker. NoteTaker is a simple but powerful use of the built-in Data Base application. NoteTaker has only three fields; Title, Category and Notes. Whenever I have an idea for *The HP Palmtop Paper*, I put it in NoteTaker. If I come across a quotation that I like, I put it in NoteTaker. Similarly, I have notes for books I want to read, investment ideas, and travel tips. Whenever I come across something that I want to remember, I jot it down in NoteTaker.



NoteTaker Screen

NoteTaker's Category field (also

The Executive Leather Case & Organizer for your HP 100LX or your HP 95LX



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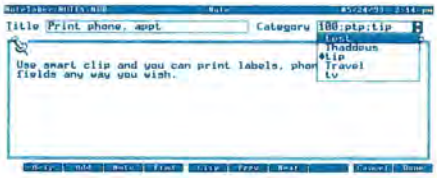
found in Phone Book and Data Base) makes it easy to organize these notes. I assign one or more categories to every note. In the examples above I have the following NoteTaker categories: Palmtop Paper, quotes, books, investment, and travel. I can easily list only those notes that deal with books, the Palmtop Paper, etc.

Once you enter a category, the HP 100LX remembers it. The next time I enter a note on a book I'm interested in, I press <Tab> a couple of times to get to the Category field and press <DownArrow> and a menu of categories pops down. I type the first letter of the category or cursor down to my choice and press ENTER. The category name is entered in the field.

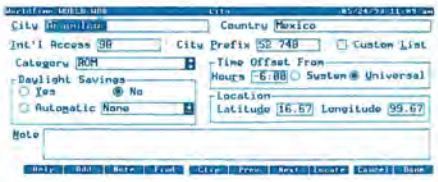


NoteTaker Screen with Category Menu

Stopwatch and World Time

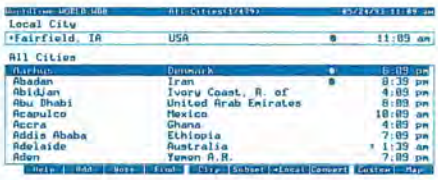
These two applications were part of APPT on the HP 95LX. They are now separate 100LX applications. My favorite new Stopwatch features are the Alarm and Repeat Timer. I can set an alarm quickly for any time in the day. I can also have my 100LX beep at me every half hour.

World Time includes a database of 478 cities. For each city you can find an area code, international access number, the longitude, latitude, and world time.



World Time City screen display

World Time's list function automatically computes and displays the current time in the cities listed.



World Time All Cities List screen

Macros

The HP 100LX comes with macro function (User Defined Function Keys). If you remember, when I translated the 95LX Phone Book file to the 100LX format, all the information in the 95LX Address field was dumped into the 100LX Notes field. I created some macros to transfer information from the Notes field to the newer fields in the 100LX Phone Book.

I haven't tried "chaining" macros yet (a new feature we'll leave for a future column from Ed Keefe). However, one change I like in the 100LX is the ability to delete previously defined macros on the fly. For instance, if I try to assign a macro to Fn-F2 and it already has one, the 100LX will ask me if I want to delete the old macro to create a new one. Also, the macro edit screen is much faster to get into and out of.

Running DOS applications

HP hired an independent lab to verify 100LX's PC compatibility. The 100LX runs everything from Microsoft Flight Simulator to Quicken. IBM PC programs with large memory requirements or sophisticated graphic requirements won't run. However, the HP 100LX is quite successful running CGA compatible software with normal PC memory needs.

I find the ability to run off-the-shelf PC software adds another dimension to the HP 100LX. DOS is more accessible on the HP 100LX than on the 95LX. You can even open a

DOS application and be able to switch back and forth between any of the built-in applications such as PHONE, 1-2-3, or APPT as long as too much memory is not being consumed.

If you are serious about running DOS applications, you will probably need more disk space -- hence a memory card. I use my HP 95LX SunDisk 5 Meg Flash ROM card in the 100LX. Thankfully, the HP system software now recognizes the SunDisk card (which HP and ACE will market under their own labels). That means you can use a SunDisk card on the 100LX without installing a special software driver as you do on the 95LX.

Two of the DOS programs I've run are Traveling Software's LapLink III and Banner Blue's Movie Guide. As reviewed last issue, LapLink III can be compressed down to around 50K. The nice thing about this well-known PC-to-PC file transfer program is that it can copy itself from the 100LX onto a PC (terminate applications first). This means that wherever you are, all you need is a 100LX and 100LX serial cable to transfer files back and forth between a PC. The new 9-pin HP 100LX serial port also helps speed up file transfers quite significantly.

I have also tested ZIP.COM's ZIPDUP program (from the Mar/Apr 92 On Disk) and it too can copy itself from the 100LX onto a PC.

As discussed in the Jan/Feb, 1993, having a Palmtop Movie Guide is a great way for selecting a movie at the video store. The full DOS screen and a 5 or 10 megabyte flash card makes the software more practical to use on the 100LX than on the 95LX. Many practical and fun DOS programs that fit well in the 100LX environment will be chronicled in future *The HP Palmtop Paper issues*.

Application Manager

Mark Scardina has promised to write a future article on the Application Manager and its many undocumented features. Those of you who tried Ed Keefe's Menu95 from last year's Subscriber Disk or who use Mark Scardina's Switch from ACE technologies have a flavor of Application Manager. Application Manager lets you launch DOS or system compliant programs by pressing [&...] (More) and typing a letter standing for the application.

Customizing Application Manager to launch your favorite programs is quite simple: it just involves filling out a few boxes. You can preconfigure any DOS program (with EXE, COM, or BAT extension) or any system compliant program (EXM extension). For example, I have my favorite DOS outline program, GrandView, configured in such a way, that all I have to do is press [&...] and the [V] and GrandView starts. Similarly, one can assign a hot key automatically to a system compliant program (say CHESS from the Sparcom Games disk). No more messing around with the undocumented APNAME.LST file.

The bad news is that in Set Up you have to predefine how much space you allow for DOS. That means in theory no matter how much memory your DOS application requires, the predefined amount gets allocated. The larger the predefined DOS space, the less memory is left over to hotkey back to PHONE, 1-2-3 or any of the built-in applications.

The good news is that there is a feature not documented in the manual that gets around this limitation. More will be explained in future issues. In a nutshell, the trick is simply to tell application manager how much of DOS memory is needed to run the application by typing a vertical bar followed by the number of K bytes required by the application.

So, for example, when I configured Application Manager to run GrandView, for the **path**, I gave it: **a:\gv\gv.exe|218**. That means even though in Setup I configured DOS to 384K, whenever I run GrandView only 218K is consumed.

Communications

I have not yet had a chance to try cc:MAIL or the COMM program. However, future articles will provide users experiences and tips in using these programs.

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PC Magazine, April 28, 1992

"IntelliLink removes the user from the complexities of accurately translating data between file formats."
The HP Palmtop Paper, March/April 1992

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Andrew Seybold, Industry Expert, February, 1993

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What to do with your old HP 95LX

HP looked into the possibility of providing a 95LX-to-100LX upgrade. However, it proved economically unfeasible since the 95LX and the 100LX are made up of different parts – the 100LX is a completely new machine.

If you purchase a 100LX, what do you do with your 95LX? Here are some options:

Sell your 95LX Locally
Put an add in a paper or sell it to a friend. This solution may require the most time, but it will probably be your best financial option.

Put a "For Sale" notice on an electronic bulletin board
Most private and commercial electronic bulletin boards allow you to put up for sale notices. Unfortunately, you may meet with a lot of competition depending on where you advertise.

Sell your 95LX to a dealer in used equipment
This approach minimizes time and hassle. However, it also minimizes what you will receive for your HP 95LX since the dealer must make the venture profitable for himself (street prices for a brand new 512K 95LX may be less than $400.) Remember, the used equipment dealer must pay his marketing and operations expense so don't be shocked by what he offers you. Currently, I am aware of four such avenues.

- **Classic Computers** is a company formed by former employees of mine. It deals in used HP PC equipment (HP Portables, HP150's, and now HP Palmtops). Classic Computers phone number is *515-472-0383.* They are open 10 to 4 CST, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday.
- **SupplyLine**, the UK distributer of *The HP Palmtop Paper*, has set up a system to trade in your HP 95LX. For more information, contact: *David Snellard, SupplyLine, Unit A, 75 South Western Road, Twickenham, TW1 1LG, UNITED KINGDOM; Phone: +44-81-744-0022; Fax: +44-81-744-0045; CompuServe: [100064,1525].*
- **The Boston Computer Exchange** purchases and resells used computer equipment. For more information, call: *800-262-6399 or 617-542-4414; Fax: 617-542-8849.*
- **Thaddeus Computing** (that's us) can always use extra palmtops for various projects including possible resale. Please don't call. If you want to mail in your Palmtop equipment *and manuals* to us, here is what we will pay for equipment in good working order and good shape:

  512 95LX (with manuals) $100; – **1MB 95LX** (with manuals) – $120; **HP Connectivity Pack** with cable and manual – $20; **95LX Serial Cable** - $10; **Misc** (RAM cards, software and other items), we'll look things over, but we won't be able to offer much, if anything.

Send equipment to: *HP 95LX Used Equipment, Thaddeus Computing, 57 E. Broadway, Fairfield, IA 52556, USA.* Include a note mentioning this offer with your phone and fax number. You will receive reimbursement within three weeks after we receive the equipment. (You can request credit for renewals to *The HP Palmtop Paper*, or credit towards *The HP Palmtop Paper* on disk if you prefer).

Give your 95LX to a friend, family member, or colleague
What a great present to pass along. (If you really want to give them a good start, order them a set of back issues to *The HP Palmtop Paper.*)

Donate your 95LX to charity
Check with your accountant to see how much you can deduct as a charitable contribution. Universities make natural recipients. If you like the idea but don't want to spend the time finding a recipient, here are two suggestions:

- **Send it to the Cristina foundation** – The National Cristina Foundation is a not-for-profit organization that shares computer and high tech applications to help people in need lead productive lives. For more information contact: *NCF, 42 Hillcrest Drive, Pelham Manor, Ny 10803, USA; Phone: 800-274-7846 or 914-738-7494.*
- **Send it to us marked "HP 95LX Donation"** – we'll see that the equipment is donated to our local university, Maharishi International University. (MIU specializes in research in consciousness). We will make sure that MIU sends you a receipt which you can use for your taxes. Send equipment to: *HP 95LX Donation, Thaddeus Computing, 57 E. Broadway, Fairfield, IA 52556, USA.*

Context Sensitive Help

The HP 100LX context sensitive help feature is much more useful and extensive than the 95LX help function. With this help feature always available, you will only need the 100LX manual for occasional reference.

Conclusion

If the 95LX built-in applications and add-on products are sufficient for your needs, there is no need to purchase a 100LX. Also, if you have eye problems, you should see the screen and the 100LX font size before purchasing it. If possible, test it in different lighting conditions.

On the other hand if you would like more robust organizer capabilities, a data base program, greater capability to run DOS programs, or cc:MAIL then run to your nearest HP dealer checkbook in hand.

I asked Tim Williams, the HP lab manager, how many of the new machine's features came from user feedback (*The HP Palmtop Paper*, CompuServe, letters, internal users, 95-Buddy). Tim estimated between 50-67%.

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Order Information

See the Order Information box on page 10 for prices and part numbers for the HP 100LX and its accessories.

HP announces the OmniBook 300 Superportable PC: We'll Support it With a New Newsletter!

The HP OmniBook 300

HP's light-weight sub-notebook PC comes with Microsoft Windows 3.1, Word and Excel built in. It has four PCMCIA slots and a fax/modem slot and has options for 80MB of hard disk space and 8MB of system RAM memory.

By Robert Roney

It looks like Hewlett Packard has done it again. On the heels of its May 5 introduction of the HP 100LX Palmtop PC, HP unveiled the big brother to the LX series – **The HP OmniBook 300 Superportable PC**. On June 7 at the Spectrum Gallery, in San Francisco, Lew Platt, the CEO of Hewlett-Packard and his special guest Bill Gates, the CEO of Microsoft Corporation, held a news conference announcing "a major advance in portable personal computing". What they described was a Windows-based "superportable" PC computer that can fit easily into any briefcase without displacing other items (16.3 x 28.2 x 3.6 cm or 6.4 x 11.1 x 1.4 in) and it's light (1.4 kg or 3.0 lbs).

We'll give you our hands-on impressions of HP's newest arrival in the next issue, based on a thorough test drive.

The Hardware

Superportability does not compromise its performance. The OmniBook comes with a full-sized keyboard, pop-up mouse and an imbedded numeric keypad. It operates like any Windows 3.1 desktop system.

There are two versions of the OmniBook: One with a 40MB hard drive (HP F1032A, retail: $1,950) and another with a 10MB flash card (HP F1031A, retail: $2,370). Microsoft's DoubleSpace disk compression software is included and can effectively double the capacity of either drive to 80MB and 20MB respectively.

The OmniBook uses a rechargeable nickel-metal-hydride battery pack or four AA batteries. One charge or one set of batteries will last up to five hours in the hard disk system and nine hours in the flash disk system. The battery pack quick-charges in about an hour and a half. The built-in power management feature preserves power and prevents draining the batteries.

The OmniBook provides some interesting possibilities for future expansion. Not only does it have all of its system software on a removable ROM card, it comes with a memory expansion slot, a fax/modem slot, and four PCMCIA card slots. One of the PCMCIA card slots is used for the system software. The hard disk version of the OmniBook uses two slots for the hard drive, leaving one free for additional cards. The 10MB Flash card version uses one card slot, leaving two slots free.

The OmniBook comes with 2MB's of RAM and the memory expansion slot will take an optional 6MB RAM board. The optional Fax/modem card provides complete send/receive capabilities and fits inconspicuously into the Fax/modem slot. When HP provides developers with additional information, many expansion products could be developed.

HP OmniBook World

Thaddeus Computing Inc. is proud to announce a new quarterly publication dedicated to supporting users of the HP OmniBook 300. Like *The HP Palmtop Paper*, ***HP OmniBook World*** will bring together under one cover all the essential information on how to get the most out of the OmniBook. Issues will include the following sections: News, Reviews, How-to-Use, Getting Started, Quick Tips, and User Profiles.

We'll give special attention to maximizing the usefulness of the HP OmniBook 300 versions of Windows 3.1, MS Excel, and MS Word for Windows and Utilities.

We will also cover the latest developments for the OmniBook in PCMCIA cards, E-Mail, CompuServe, and Connectivity.

When you subscribe to the ***HP OmniBook World*** you will also receive two special reports ***The Best Tips and Tricks for the HP OmniBook***, a treasure trove of short-cuts and time savers, and ***PC Card Review***, a reference guide to help you sort through the multitude of PCMCIA cards available.

Also, with your subscription, you'll receive the ***HP OmniBook PowerDisk***, a selection of the best freeware and shareware applications, utilities and games specially for the OmniBook 300. The subscription, $39 for 1 year or $69 for 2 years, starts Winter 1993. *(Canada/Mexico add $3 to 1-year and $6 to 2-year subscriptions. Other non-US orders add $12 to 1-year and $24 to 2-year subscriptions.)*

To order, contact:

Thaddeus Computing Inc., P.O.Box 869, Fairfield, IA 52556, USA; or Phone: 800-373-6114, outside the U.S. phone: 515-472-6330; Fax 515-472-1879.

HP OmniBook 300 Technical Specifications

Hardware

Size closed
- 16.3 x 28.2 x 3.6 cm (6.4 x 11.1 x 1.4 in)

Weight
- 1.31 kg (2.888 lb) with flash disk
- 1.36 kg (2.998 lb) with hard disk

Traveling weight
(includes adapter and power cable):
- 1.70 kg (3.75 lb) with flash disk
- 1.74 kg (3.84 lb) with hard disk

Processor
- 386 SXLV CPU

Display
- 640 x 480 dot VGA
- 9-inch diagonal LCD
- 16 shades of gray

Power
- 4.8 volts DC rechargeable battery pack with nickel-metal-hydride cells
- Battery pack recharges in less that 1.5 hours using AC adapter
- Low battery warning when approximately 2 minutes of operation remain
- Battery life - up to 5 hours with hard disk, 9 hours with flash disk
- AC adapter - 100 to 240 volts AC (50 to 60 Hz) input, 12 volts DC output
- Backup power option - battery pack can be replaced by four 1.5 volt lithium AA batteries; or for the flash disk OmniBook only, four 1.5 volt alkaline AA batteries

Operating Requirements
- Operating temp.: 0° - 40° C (32° - 104° F)
- Storage temp. with data retention: 0° - 55° C (32° - 131° F)
- Operating and storage humidity: 90% relative humidity at 40° C (104° F) maximum

Available versions of mass storage
- 40MB hard disk (approximately 80MB with file compression software)
- 10MB flash disk (approximately 20MB with file compression software)

System RAM
- 2MB expandable to a total of 8MB with optional RAM expansion card

Input/Output
- 9-pin, 115K baud, RS-232 port (with hardware handshaking)
- 25-pin parallel port
- 9-pin-to-9-pin serial cable included
- 115K baud, bi-directional infrared port
- Communications port for optional fax/modem card

Keyboard and mouse
- 85 keys
- Touch-typeable keyboard, industry-standard full-sized key spacing
- Embedded numeric keypad
- 9 Fn keys
- Built-in pop-up mouse

Expendability
- Add mass storage or communications capabilities using PCMCIA, Type II, Version 2.0 card slots
- Two slots available with the 10MB flash disk version
- One slot available with the 40MB hard disk version

Built-in Software in ROM

Microsoft Word for Windows Ver. 2.0
- Toolbar provides 22 common commands at the top of the screen
- Drag and Drop for moving text
- Table button on Toolbar allows insertion of tables
- Envelope button on Toolbar allows easy creation of envelopes
- Print Merge Helper to create personalized form letter
- Find File feature to help locate and preview files before opening them
- Houghton-Mifflin spell checker and database
- Text converters: text only, text only with line breaks, DOS test, DOS text with line breaks, RTF, Microsoft Windows Write, WordPerfect 5.1/5.0, Excel Worksheet
- Graphic filters: Microsoft Windows Metafile, PCX, TIFF, DrawPerfect
- Word-specific fonts, Dialog box font
- MS Word components not in HP OmniBook: Microsoft Draw, Graph, Equation Editor, WordArt, some proofing tools, text converters, graphics filters, Word-specific fonts, add ins, WordPerfect Help, some templates, tutorial, README files and examples.

Microsoft Excel Ver. 4.0
Spreadsheet, graphics, database functions; Autofill; Autoselect; Autosum; Best-fit column width; Customizable Toolbar; Drag and Drop; Most recently used files recall; Shortcut (pop-up) menus; View manager; Scenario manager; Auditing tools; Data consolidation; Database support; Goal seek; On-line help; Auto Save add-in.
-Microsoft Excel components not in HP OmniBook: Some add-in components and compatibility features, macro development tools, product support services tools, tutorial, README files, and examples

MS-DOS Version 5.0
Batch files; Device drivers; Format flash disks and RAM cards with FORMAT command.
- MS-DOS components not in HP OmniBook: MS-DOS Shell, Editor, and QBasic, tutorials, README files, and some MS-DOS 5.0 external commands and device drivers

Microsoft Windows Ver. 3.1
Set password protect against unauthorized use; Change configurations; Change desktop options; Install printers; Setup fonts; Program Manager; File Manager; Control Panel; Notepad; Clock.
- Microsoft Windows components not in HP OmniBook: 386 enhanced mode support, and some applications, fonts, and drivers

LapLink Remote Access (TM)
- File transfer capabilities
- Connect to desktop PC and see drives locally

Prices: OmniBook and Accessories

OmniBook 300 with 10MB Flash ROM card (F1031A)	$2370
OmniBook 300 with 40MB hard drive (F-1032A)	$1950
Fax/Modem Communications Package (F1040A)	$379
2MB RAM Expansion Module (F1041A)	$175
(4MB and 6MB expansion modules will be released later)	
40MB Hard drive (F1050A)	$499
10MB Flash ROM card (F1013A)	$879
5MB Flash ROM card (F1012A)	$499

The Software

Microsoft Windows 3.1, MS-DOS 5.0, MS Word for Windows, MS Excel, a Phone Book, an Appointment Book and other utilities are included in the more than 10MB System ROM card. Like the 95LX and 100LX, the OmniBook has an instant-on feature. The off button powers the computer down, it does not exit the applications. When you turn the OmniBook back on, all the applications are exactly as you left them. Also, you can start applications and switch between them by touching one of the fast-access key combinations (press Fn and then F1 through F12). These fast-access keys are re-assignable, so you can set up your own applications or update the built-in software to new versions.

The OmniBook 300 comes with a serial cable and LapLink Remote Access software built in. This makes it easy to transfer files to and from your desktop computer. LapLink Remote allows the OmniBook to directly read a desktop PC's drives and can redirect printer output from your OmniBook to a printer connected to your PC. LapLink can connect with your PC through either the built-in serial or parallel ports. The OmniBook also comes with an infrared port and can transfer files between another OmniBook, HP 100LX, HP 95LX, or one of HP's new Vectras, which feature an IR port. All this makes backing up and file transfers easier. If the built-in software doesn't suit your needs, you can use LapLink Remote to install any compatible Windows or DOS applications.

Who is the OmniBook for?

The OmniBook 300 is for the on-the-go professional who needs mobility, Window's applications, and a useable touch-type keyboard. Although the OmniBook is too large to fit in your coat pocket, it would fit easily into a briefcase or medium-sized purse.

The OmniBook provides much of the convenience and efficiency that has made the LX systems so useful. You may find that you have two HP's; an LX in your pocket and an Omnibook in your briefcase.

New Products Designed to Work with the HP 95LX

In the first nine issues we listed over 325 hardware and software products, and other 95LX-related services already available from third-party manufacturers and developers. We will continue to list 95LX hardware, software, books, videos, training, and services as we discover them. Vendors of 95LX-related products should send us information. (NOTE: Prices listed are suggested retail. Sometimes you will be able to get a better price from a third-party vendor or discount catalog source.) Starting next issue we will also list 100LX software and peripherals as they become available.

By Richard Hall and Hal Goldstein

Hardware

Cases

Leather Case and Organizer

Leather cases for the 95LX/100LX combine features designed for office executives and frequent flyers.
[See Advertising, page 8.]

Availability ..... Now
Pricing $69.95
CONTACT: *E & B Company, 1013 McRae Way, Roseville, CA 95678, USA; Phone: 916-782-9219.*

Connectivity

Serial-to-Parallel Converter Cable

This cable allows you to connect the 95LX up to a parallel printer. It has a 4-pin serial plug on one end and a serial-to-parallel converter on the other. The converter draws its power from the parallel port you are connecting to, not the 95LX.
[See Advertising, page 54.]

Availability ..... Now
Pricing $125
CONTACT: *Imaging Supplies Express,*

3892 Del Amo Blvd., Unit 705, Torrance, CA 90503, USA; Phone: 800-462-4309 or 310-370-6882; Fax: 310-370-3265.

HP Parallel Port

Self-contained, bi-directional serial-to-parallel converter. Doesn't need a power supply or batteries because it gets all its power from printer signals.

Availability ..... Now
Medium Serial-to-Parallel Converter
Pricing $79.95
CONTACT: *The BSE Company, 2114 N. 4th Street, Flagstaff, AZ 86004, USA; Phone: 602-527-8843; Fax: 602-527-1540.*

Card Drives

CardPro Universal External Card Drive

Connects to your desktop or laptop PC and provides the ability to read and write (as appropriate) to all types of PCMCIA-compatible memory and I/O cards.

Additional models will be available in the second quarter of 1993.

Availability ..... Now
Pricing $450
CONTACT: *DATA IO, 10525 Willows Road N.E., P.O. Box 97046, Redmond, WA 98073-9746, USA; Phone: 800-332-8246; Fax: 206-869-7423.*

Memory Cards

EgoRAM SRAM Cards

PCMCIA 2.0 cards with long battery life and a five-year warranty and battery replacement guarantee.

Availability ..... Now
Pricing
1MB Card $219
2MB Card $329
CONTACT: *Chaplet Peripherals, 252 North Wolfe Road, Sunnyvale CA, 94086, USA; Phone: 800-308-3388 or 408-732-7950; Fax: 408-732-6050; CompuServe ID: [76004,3660].*

Software

Connectivity

Print to an HP Infrared Printer

Just uploaded to CompuServe is a freeware utility written by Dave Marsh for printing text files to the HP Redeye infrared printer (82240A or 82240B). The utility, IRPRT .COM, may be used to print any kind of output you wish. If you use a program that inserts control codes into the text, these will be sent to the printer along with the text, allowing you to print graphics, change tab and margin settings, and other printer functions.

Availability ..... Now
Runs under SysMgr ..... Yes
Pricing ..... Freeware
CONTACT: *Library 7 of the CompuServe HP HAND forum. Also available on the May/Jun 93 The HP Palmtop Paper ON DISK.*

Entertainment

Match Up

Poses revealing questions on opinions, attitudes, values and feelings about Politics, Romance, and Spiritual Beliefs. "Like having dating-service software on your 95LX." Includes a challenging takeoff on the Prisoners' Dilemma Game.

Availability ..... Now
Medium ..... Floppy or ROM card
Runs under SysMgr ..... No
Pricing
Floppy disk $59.95
ROM Card $89.95
CONTACT: *EduCALC, 27953 Cabot Road, Laguna Niguel, CA 92677, USA; Phone: 800-677-7001 or 714-582-2637; Fax: 714-582-1445.*

SketchIt

This 95LX-specific game selects words to be sketched, maintains score and keeps time. Similar to Pictionary™, but in the palm of your hand.

Availability ..... Now
Medium ..... Floppy disk (Specify size)
Runs under SysMgr ..... Yes
Min file size (uncompressed) ... 38K
RAM occupied when running ... 25K
Pricing ..... $25 (plus $5 shipping/handling)
CONTACT: *Lagniappe Micro Technology, Inc., P.O. Box 82034, Batton Rouge, LA 70884-2034, USA; Phone: 504-292-2292.*

Health Related

Food

Features a database of over 1,500 foods with the ability to add, edit, or delete food items. Program designed to aid in the tracking of various vitamins, cholesterol, calories and other dietary concerns. Also included in this package is a food calculator for summing up various dietary intakes for meals. Requires around 30K for programs plus space for database.

Availability ..... Now
Medium ..... Floppy disk
Runs under SysMgr ..... No
Min file size (uncompressed) .. 30K+ (Plus database size)
Pricing ..... $50 *(plus $5 S/H, $10 S/H overseas)*
CONTACT: *Snappy Software, P.O. Box 731, Lexington KY, 40586, USA.*

Navigation

NAV95

This software turns the 95LX into a navigational aid for sailors, pilots, and astronomers. Features include the following:

- Determines rising, meridian, and setting times for sun, moon, and other heavenly bodies for a given lat/long;
- Gives altitudes and azimuths for all planets, moon and stars at any given hour;
- Tells which body/constellation is highest in the sky;
- Determines new lat/long if given starting lat/long, compass direction, and number of miles traveled;
- Gives distance in miles if two different locations are known.
- Gives Long or Line of Position for sun, moon, or any planet or star at the time the body is observed by a sextant; includes Mercury.
- Clock in Palmtop can be used to time and record sextant sights.
- New and unique. Gets Long or L.O.P. from sunrise /set. Not sextant needed.
- All input and output data is saved in a file, which can be viewed or printed at a later time.
- Gives exact direction of north star so a telescope can be aligned to true north;

NAV95 is designed expressly for the HP 95LX, but works on any PC-compatible computer.

Availability ..... Now
Medium ..... Floppy disk
Runs under SysMgr ..... No
Pricing ..... $99 *(Plus shipping and handling: $3.00 US, $5.00 outside US.)*
CONTACT: *Louis Valier, 2969 Kalakaua Ave., #505, Honolulu, HI 96815, USA; Phone 808-924-7155.*

T-Star

Aviation-related Lotus add-in designed for the 95LX and 100LX. Provides pilot with information needed for flight planning and in-flight calculations. Program includes a multi-leg planning chart; fuel and useful load requirements for each selected flight leg; waypoint library capable of storing 500 waypoints; capability of generating geographical coordinates from any known location; specific weight and longitudinal balance limitations for selected aircraft; calculator section which provides normal E6B functions plus winds aloft, wind chill factor, basic weight and balance, and conversion calculations.

T-Star is menu driven with a filer section to reduce pilot workload both on and off the ground. Additional aircraft center of gravity envelopes are available at extra cost.

[See Advertising, page 6.]

Availability ..... Now
Medium ..... 3.5" Floppy Disk
Runs under SysMgr ..... Yes
(Lotus add-in)
Min file size (uncompressed) ... 68K
Pricing $100
CONTACT: *Teague Aviation, 213 Shekel Drive, Lafayette, LA 70508, USA; Phone & Fax: 318-989-8700.*

Programming

A Neural Network Shell for the HP 95LX

NN95 is a three layer back-propagation neural network shell that can be used for the development of trading systems for the analysis of trends in stocks, futures and options prices as well as for other neural network applications.

NN95 uses a hotkey interface and all text is displayed in the 40x16 window of the 95LX. NN95 requires less than 80K of storage space on your C drive. Installation of help files is optional. NN95 also requires some small data files the size of which depend on your application.

The package also comes with NNET, a desktop PC version.

Technical support for this program is provided free of charge for 90 days via the CompuServe address below.

Availability ..... Now
Medium ..... Floppy Disk
Runs under SysMgr ..... No
Pricing $49
(plus $5 S/H, 2-day air)
CONTACT: *Jim Michael, P.O. Box 941124, Atlanta, GA 30341, USA; CompuServe ID: [70304,3567] NO PHONE AVAILABLE.*

Utilities

ABKTool, Version 2.0

ABKTool (ABKTL.EXE) is a stand-alone viewer and editor of .ABK files created by the 95LX APPT program. (Fore more information, see page 25, this issue.)

Availability ..... Now
Medium ..... Shareware
Runs under SysMgr ..... Yes
Min file size (uncompressed) . 58.5K
RAM occupied when running . ~130K
Pricing $30
CONTACT: *Available on PTP ON DISK or from library 7 of the HP - HAND forum on CompuServe.*

Also available directly from author: Paul Kramer, One Linden Place, Woodland, CA 95695, USA (CompuServe ID: 72276, 3602); NO PHONE AVAILABLE! For orders direct from author, add $5 ($8 for overseas addresses) shipping and handling. Specify 5.25" or 3.5" DOS formatted disks (sorry, Apple Macintosh format is not available).

Alarm

Package contains an analog clock, a digital clock, a countdown timer and an alarm clock. When the clock is utilized, the 95LX sleep mode is deactivated, making the 95LX an ideal travel alarm clock.

Availability ..... Now
Medium ..... Floppy disk
Runs under SysMgr ..... No
Min file size (uncompressed) ... 25K
Pricing $10
(plus $5 S/H, $10 S/H overseas)
CONTACT: *Snappy Software, P.O. Box 731, Lexington KY, 40586, USA.*

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EMBARC℠ ADVANCED MESSAGING BY MOTOROLA

Motorola NewsStream Receiver & EMBARC software: $483.00. Monthly EMBARC subscription: $15.00.

Publications and Services

EduCALC NewsLINE

EduCALC, a discount catalog reseller of the 95LX and 100LX related products, has started a news line that you can call for information on the latest 95/100LX-related products. You need a touch-tone phone to navigate the system. The phone number in the U.S. is 714-582-3976.

Mobile Computing Forum

Three-day conference scheduled for June 21-23, 1993 at the Fairmont Hotel, in Dallas TX, USA. The conference is designed to provide attendees with hands-on demonstrations of the technology available to implement and support corporate-wide mobile computing applications.

Attendees will receive an HP 100LX to use during the forum and will actively participate in live, real-time wireless network demonstrations with the ability to communicate via RadioMail with all in attendance.

The event is sponsored by Dataquest Inc. in conjunction with leading mobile computing vendors, including Hewlett-Packard, Ericsson GE, RAM MobileData, and PC Computing Magazine.

Availability ..... June 21-23, 1993
Conference fee $1,396
($1,195 if registered before May 31)
CONTACT: *Dataquest Inc., Phone: 800-457-8233 or 805-298-3261; Fax: 415-968-2201.*

Upgrades, Updates, and Corrections

Correction on IntelliLink Reference

IntelliLink for Windows and IntelliLink/ XLT were reviewed in the article "Transferring Files Between the 95LX and a PC or MAC," page 12-19 of the Mar/Apr 1993 issue. The comparison chart listed JI.EXM, the main program file, as occupying 115K of disk space. It actually takes up 11.5K. IntelliLink prices were also incorrect. IntelliLink/ XLT retails for $69.95 and IntelliLink for Windows for $99.95. We apologize for the mistake.

For more information, see Ad, page 26 or CONTACT: *IntelliLink, Inc., 98 Spit Brook Road, Suite 12, Nashua, NH 03062, USA; Phone: 603-888-0666; Fax: 603-888-9817.*

New Release of ACT! for Windows 1.1 Links to 95LX

This newest release of ACT! for Windows corrects a problem with earlier versions and allows ACT for the 95LX users to transfer ACT files back and forth between the Windows version. Other new features in this version include greatly improved speed, point-and-shoot data importing, links with WinFax PRO faxing software, and quick dialing for common phone numbers.

Availability ..... Now
Medium ..... Floppy Disk
Windows version, **Not for the 95LX**
Pricing $395
CONTACT: *Contact Software International, 1840 Hutton Drive, #200, Carrollton, TX 75006, USA; Phone: 800-365-0606 or 214-919-9500; Fax: 214-919-9750.*

UK CONTACT: Phone: +44 (0) 753 830727; Fax: +44 (0) 753 833317.

GERMAN CONTACT: Phone: +49 (0) 89/2 31 138-0; Fax: +49 (0) 89/2 31 138-11.

LoanSTAR 4.0 Upgrade Adds Features

The newest version of LoanSTAR has four ways to amortize loans: Regular schedules, accelerated fixed rate schedules, accelerated ARM schedules, and biweekly mortgage schedules. The compare loans module now places three loan options side-by-side on the same display and the same is true of Fixed vs. ARM. LoanSTAR now prequalifies buyers three ways. It prequalifies maximum allowable loan amount when sale price is not known. When the price is known it computes required income and maximum allowable debt and ratio computation. The program now will print to the HP infrared printer.

Availability ..... Now
Medium ..... Floppy disk
Runs under SysMgr ..... No
Pricing, new $295
Upgrade $40
CONTACT: *Pocket Computer Systems, 505 S.E. 15th Street, Gresham, OR 97080, USA; Phone: 503-665-6990.*

Mileage Log Upgrade; Japanese Version Also Available

This database program tracks car mileage, remembers previous routes and keeps a running total of mileage and expenses. New version lets you track up to ten expenses (hotels, meals, etc.) Expense account names are now user-definable. A Japanese version is also available which prompts for kilometers rather than miles and uses the yen currency symbol in displays and reports.

[See Advertising, page 32.]

Availability ..... Now
Medium ..... Floppy Disk
Runs under SysMgr ..... Yes
Min file size (uncompressed) . 17.5K
RAM occupied when running . . . 22K
Pricing
Version 2.0 ..... $79
Japanese version $79
Upgrade previous versions . $29
CONTACT: *Genus Software Corp., 1625 Richards Street, Salt Lake City, Utah 84115, USA; Phone: 801-487-6220.*

GRAPHICS IN BASIC?

SS95.LIB is the only graphics library with sound support designed for BASIC programmers that allows you to:
- draw lines, boxes & fills
- print text in graphics mode
- set and reset individual pixels at assembly speed.

SS95.LIB
$50.00 + $5.00 S&H

Snappy Software
P.O. Box 731
Lexington, KY 40586
606-269-0496

Shareware Mentioned in Third Party Products

On the HP Palmtop Paper ON DISK

*CIS **SHR ABKTool - M/J 93
*CIS IRPRT.COM - M/J 93

**CIS — Also available in the HP Handhelds forum of CompuServe.*

***SHR — SHAREWARE is software distributed free of charge for evaluation purposes only. If you decide to use it, you must pay the author the shareware fee. This includes any shareware found on The HP Palmtop Paper ON DISK or CompuServe.*

*AOL — Many of these files may be found on American Online in the Palmtop Library (keyword **Palmtop**).*

Add Assets to Appointment Book

Better manage your appointment schedule with software that lets you see more than one day's appointments at a time, view appointments/to-dos together, and more!

By Bob Perry

The HP 95LX sets new standards for ease of use and seamless integration. However, several of the built-in applications do benefit from enhancement software that is currently available. This article reviews five of the more popular add-ins to the Appointment Book function.

UTIL Forth V2.4

95LX Programmer's Toolkit

Harness the power of your 95LX with UTIL - a System Manager compliant version of the Forth language. Even you "non-programmers" can use the sample programs for games, graphics and utilities.

- Create System Manager loaders for your favorite DOS programs
- Create System Manager compliant applications
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- Includes: Forth compiler, decompiler, 8086 assembler, disassembler, User's Guide, source code examples

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"Great software package! Thanks"
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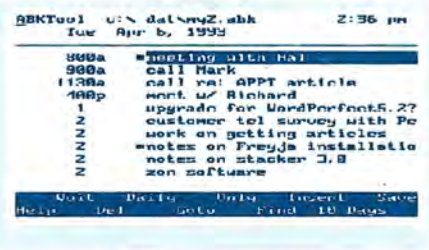
APPT is one of the more widely used 95LX applications. How much you like it depends largely on how you organize your day. For some, APPT fits the bill. For others, it needs a little improvement.

Many former users of pocket day-planners, are accustomed to the week-at-a-glance format. Four of the programs reviewed attempted to provide a graphical view of the week or month and the ability to review more than one day's appointments at a time (lacking in APPT). In addition, some improve the display of notes, and to-do lists.

ABKTool

Perhaps the most complete of all programs reviewed, this is the only program that can completely replace APPT. ABKTool can be started with a hotkey. It provides you with a daily view and a 10-day calendar view of your appointments. Finally, it lets you insert and edit appointments without going back to APPT.

If you're looking for a APPT replacement check this out.



ABKTool display screen

ABKTool is a feature-rich replacement for the built-in Appointment Book application. It displays a daily view of appointments and To-do's in a single list, or a 10-day view list of appointments only, with the current day at the top.

ABKTool allows the insertion, editing, deletion and cloning of appointments, to-dos, and notes. It also lets you check-off to-dos as you complete them. Basic text editing features are provided within the program, including cut, copy, and paste. In addition, you can press F1 to access a pop-up help function in case you get stuck (optional 21K file).

The other APPT add-ins reviewed (WEEKABK, MULTIDAY, and ZApp)

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Bob is currently the Director of Management Information Systems for Telematics International, Ft. Lauderdale, Florida, USA. Telematics is an international supplier of Wide Area Networking hardware, software and support services. Bob has been a 95LX user for a year and a half. For those who wish to contact him, his CompuServe ID is [71431,2703].

allow viewing the Appointment Book .ABK file. However, you must go into APPT to make changes to that file. ABKTool displays and edits the .ABK file. You don't have to use APPT with ABKTool.

ABKTool has a full suite of convenience functions missing from APPT, including a very flexible date entry feature. The user can key in a date in **MM/DD/YY** format or in **MM/DD** format (year implied). You can even key in **MO** for Monday, **TU** for Tuesday, for the next occurrence of that day. In addition, you can key in **Y** for Yesterday, **TM** for Tomorrow, or the specific number of days from the current date (i.e. **++10** for ten days in the future, **--21** for twenty-one days previous). This really helps when someone says, "Let's get together in 12 days for a follow-up meeting."

ABKTool's pop-up calendar

ABKTool also provides the user with a pop-up calendar that shows the current month (or any past or future month as well). Position the cursor on the date in the calendar, hit ENTER and ABKTool takes you to the daily listing for that date. This is a big help when you want to go to the second Tuesday in November to see what you're doing, but don't remember what that date is. You can also use the Calendar pop up to find and insert a date in an appointment, note or to-do item.

ABKTool includes an Only function that lets you search for only those appointments with a key word or phrase in them and display them (i.e. all appointments with the word "Goldstein" in them). This function even allows for sophisticated "and", "or" and "not" searches of the appointment file. Search parameters can be saved and re-used so that frequently used searches can be pre-stored and executed with just a couple of keystrokes. You can pre-store up to 20 of these search phrases.

ABKTool requires more disk space and more RAM than any of the other packages reviewed here. It must be executed from the DOS prompt or run as a TSR. (A "Terminate and Stay Resident" program runs in the background while other programs are running). If it is executed as a TSR, ABKTool can be assigned a hotkey using a program called a "Loader" (included in the package). It can be called up on top of all the built-in applications (including 1-2-3).

In the current version (2.1), you do have to quit APKTool before you go to a built-in application or other .EXM program. However, because ABKTool is a TSR, it remains loaded in System RAM memory even after quitting the program. When you call it up again, you go back to where you were.

You cannot cut and paste between ABKTool and other system-compliant programs. However, version 2.1 allows Appointment Book alarms to ring while ABKTool is in control.

Since ABKTool uses the same .ABK file as the APPT application, it's best to keep APPT closed when working in ABKTool. If you have both applications open at the same time, each accessing the same .ABK file, changes you make in one will not appear in the other.

If you keep several applications open at the same time, or are limited on the amount of RAM memory available, you might have difficulties with ABKTool. One point to ABKTool's favor is that it can be run on you desktop system, insuring cross-platform compatibility.

Program author Paul Kramer seems to have thought of just about everything with ABKTool. If you

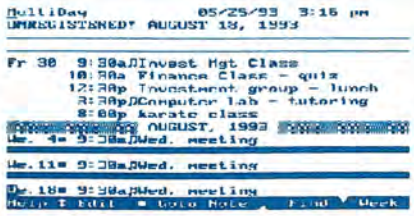
have the memory available, ABKTool significantly improves upon APPT.

Multiday

This daily or weekly list-style viewer has excellent find capabilities including a Free-Time finder to locate open spots of a specific duration in your schedule. Multiday also lets you view past and future to-do lists. You must access APPT to insert or edit appointments.

While not quite as feature rich as ABKTool, Multiday is fully system compliant, using about 70-80K of System RAM.

Multiday 3.01 provides a continuously scrolling view of the Appointment file. This view indicates where notes are attached to appointments and permits viewing those notes by placing the cursor on that line and pressing [F5]. Editing is accomplished by pressing [F3], which takes the user into the edit function of APPT.



Multiday continuously scrolling display

The user can also select a weekly (two-column) view as well. In the Week view, the user is presented with two columns listing the days of the week, the time, and a brief 16 character appointment description.

Multiday weekly display

Multi - Macro Manager

Break through the 10 "User-Defined-Key" barrier. Manage up to 200 User-Defined Keys (System Macros).

Run any one macro immediately.

Create, delete, and swap Macro Files

Move, copy, and delete Individual Macros

Written by Ed Keefe, Contributing Editor, The HP Palmtop Paper

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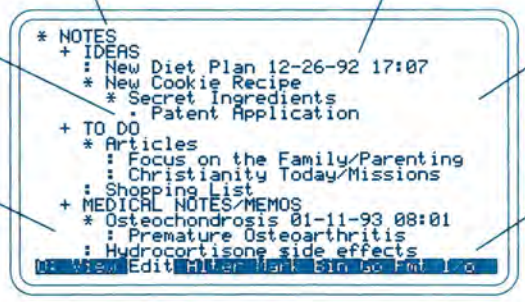

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(Dealers & Distributors welcome)

The current date flashes to help keep the viewer oriented. Pressing [F3] or [F5] in this view takes you to the same date in the previous or next month respectively. Pressing [F8] always takes the user back to the current date.

One very useful feature allows you to find a time slot for an appointment of a specific length. Press [MENU] Free and enter the duration of the appointment in minutes (i.e. **100** for 100 minutes anytime during the day, **90,p** for 1 hour and 30 minutes anytime during the afternoon). Multiday then searches forward from the current date and displays the first date and time with the requested amount of time available. (The number of days to be searched and the times of the day to be searched are configurable options.) Press [ENTER] to go to that day and press [ENTER] again to actually key in the appointment. Multiday then automatically transfers

you to the built-in APPT application and leaves you positioned on the day in question, ready to insert your appointment.

In fact, whenever you have the cursor placed on an appointment in MultiDay, you can press [APPT] and immediately go to that appointment in APPT for rapid review and editing of your schedule.

Multiday's "Only" feature lets you select a specific subset of your appointments. For example, you can do an Only search on **staff** if you want to see appointments relating to "Staff Meetings."

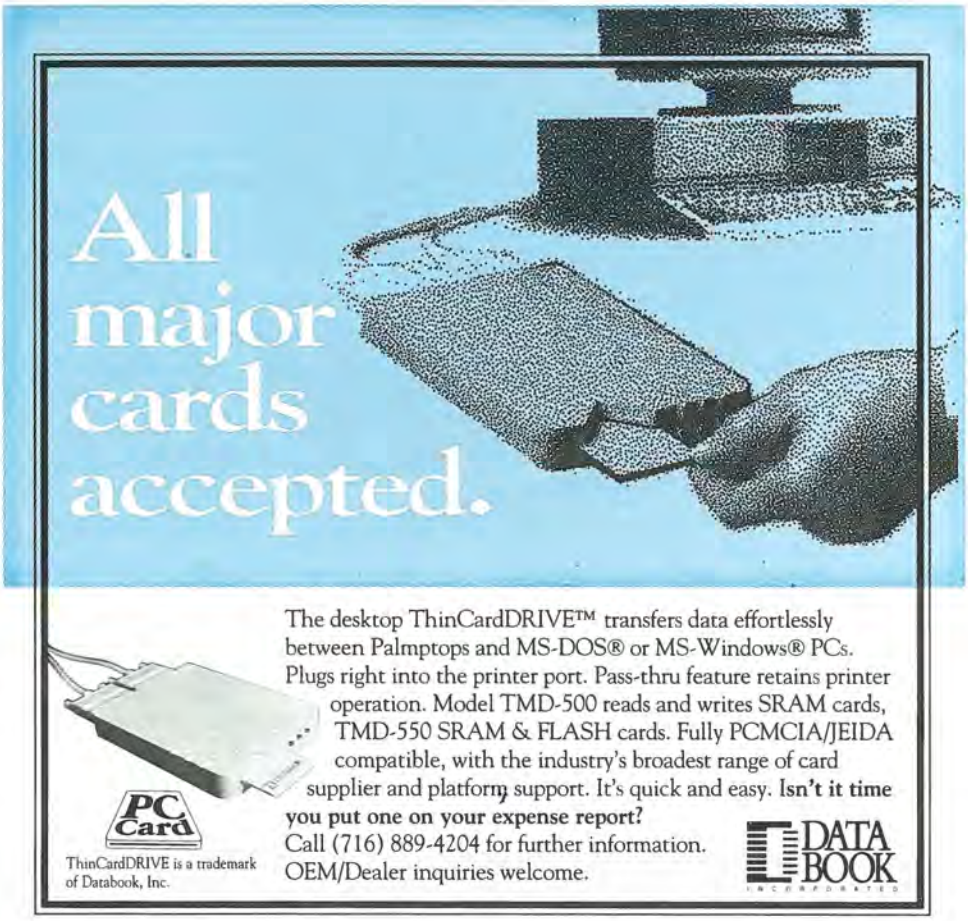
As mentioned, Multiday lets you view APPT's to-do list. You can do this in two ways. List future to-do's with their priorities and start dates by pressing [MENU] ToDo. List all to-dos that have already been checked off by pressing [MENU], selecting **#ToDo** and pressing [ENTER]. View to-do's for the current day by pressing [F3] to access APPT and pressing [F10] to display the to-do's

Multiday viewing future to-dos

Multiday can be configured to handle small or larger .ABK files, and provides the user with numerous other configuration options. For instance, you can make Multiday "Buddy aware" (so it takes advantage of 95-Buddy's features), you can set the number of days to load from the appointment book file, and you can specify the European date format (DD/MM/ YEAR). I reviewed Multiday v. 3.01.

[As the article is being edited, C.E. Steuart Dewar announced that v. 3.04 is in beta testing. This latest version lets you specify up to three separate search arguments. For example, you could display appointments containing the words "Goldstein,", "Urgent," and "Article."

3.04 should be available by the time you read this article. There is no upgrade charge for registered Multiday users — Editor.]

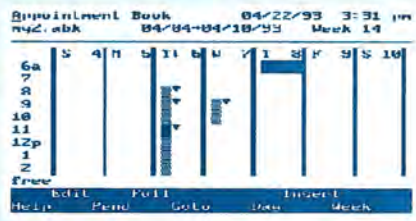


WEEKABK

This program provides a concise graphical display of appointments one week at a time and a seamless entry into APPT to insert and edit appointments.

For those who want a small program (14K of system RAM) and don't need sophisticated search features of Multiday.

This System-Manager compliant program displays the week graphically across the screen with the days of the week across the top in columns and the times of the day in one hour increments down the left side. Each appointment in the day is blocked off in the hour segment or segments that it occupies.



WEEKABK Screen Display

As the cursor is moved down the column for a specific day, the Appointment subject and actual start and end times are displayed at the bottom of the screen. Arrows at the top of the screen indicate whether there are appointments in the day that are earlier or later than the hours currently being displayed. One can scroll through the weeks by using the right and left arrow keys. You can also press [F9] (WEEK) and enter a

number 1-52 to go to a specific week in the year.

You can also easily insert appointments. With the cursor positioned on any date, press [F7] and you go to HP's built-in APPT application, daily view, positioned on that date. Press [F8] (INSERT) to insert an appointment for that date.

WEEKABK does not have an appointment editor, but links to APPT for daily views and for inserting or editing appointments. When you are done editing, simply press [CTRL]-[APPT] again to return to WEEKABK. Any changes you made will be displayed.

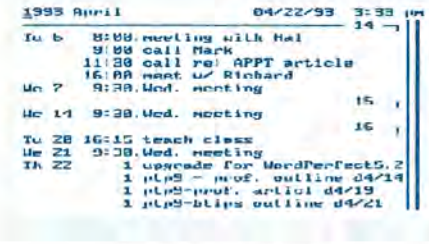
WEEKABK lets you notify yourself of pending yearly appointments. You enter a yearly appointment in the APPT as you normally would, except that you put a ♥ (heart) at the beginning of the appointment text (press [ALT]-3). Then you have to use MEMO to modify WEEKABK.ENV and select the number of days prior to and after the appointment date that you want it displayed in the pending list. When you place the cursor on a day 14 days before or after the yearly appointment and press [F3] (PEND), the appointment will show up. For birthdays you can add the birth year and the program will calculate the age and display it in the pending list.

ZApp

This easy to use appointment book viewer lists multiple days' appointments together with To-Do's. It also provides a quick way to view notes.

For those who want a simple, system-compliant appointment viewing program using only about 5K of system RAM.

ZApp is a small, fully system compliant add-in that provides a graphical, scrollable list of your appointments and to-dos with an indicator for attached notes. It displays a month at a time and you can move to the previous or next month with the left and right arrow keys. Each days entries are separated by a heavy bar making it easy to view the different days' commitments. You can view appointments only by pressing [MENU] Todo-suppress.



Zapp display screen

In the Scroll-mode pressing [ENTER] with the cursor positioned on an appointment or a to-do will display the details, start time and end time, along with the contents of any attached note. Pressing [ESC] takes you back to your previous view.

You cannot change the contents of your Appointment Book file from

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within ZApp. You must toggle to the built-in APPT to make changes.

ZApp is the smallest of the applications here, requiring only about 5K.

95Buddy

Not strictly an APPT utility, 95Buddy significantly improves the performance of Appointment Book and integrates well with MULTIDAY and WEEKABK.

95Buddy's contributions include:

- Lets user select Daily, Calendar, or Todo list view to come up when starting APPT.
- A GOTO timer to limit the amount of time spent on any Find (F7) command. Prevents long APPT (PHONE, FILER) searches.
- Auto-updating of .ABK file prior to entering WEEKABK. Keeps files in sync.
- Automatically positions cursor on first appointment of the day, not first hour of the day.

Summary

The degree to which any one of these programs is a good fit for you will depend on your specific needs. ABKTool improves on APPT by adding many features and can augment or replace APPT. Multiday with its list style display gives you a number of different views of appointments and to-dos along with search and find capabilities. Week-at-a-Glance has a unique graphic display of a weeks appointments and adds a yearly pending list.

ZApp is an easy to learn and use APPT file viewer. It shows a month's worth of combined appointments, to-dos and notes. 95Buddy adds features to APPT and enhances the integration of both MULTIDAY and WEEKABK with APPT. Since all are Shareware feel free to try them. But remember that if you find them useful and decide to keep them on your system, you'll need to register the copies.

The registration fees are listed in Shareware/Freeware box.

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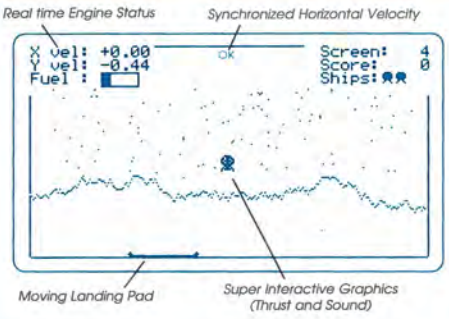

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Shareware/Freeware Mentioned in This Article

On the HP Palmtop Paper ON DISK

*CIS **SHR ABKTool – May/Jun 93
APPTBOOK.ZIP – May/Jun 93
*CIS **SHR Multiday 3.01 – May/Jun 93
*CIS **SHR WEEKABK – Nov/Dec 92
*CIS **SHR Zapp – May/Jun 93
*CIS **SHR 95Buddy – Nov/Dec 92

**CIS – Also available in the HP Handhelds forum of CompuServe.*

***SHR – SHAREWARE is software distributed free of charge for evaluation purposes only. If you decide to use it, you must pay the author the shareware fee. This goes for any shareware found on The HP Palmtop Paper ON DISK or CompuServe.*

*AOL – many of these files may be found on American Online in the Palmtop Library (keyword **Palmtop**).*

Software	Contact Information CIS User ID:	Disk Space (no help file)	SYSMGR Compliant ?	Current Version	File type	System RAM Required	Source	Share-ware fee
ABKTool	Paul Kramer [72276,3602]	36.4K	No, DOS or TSR can be "loaded" with a hotkey	2.1	EXE	~130K	PTP ON DISK, CIS	$30.00
WeekAbk	Ehood Baratz Hewlett Packard 11 Hashlosha St. Tel-Aviv 67060 Israel	14.6K	Yes	3.7.6	EXM	~14K	PTP ON DISK, CIS	One Postcard from Your Town
MultiDay	C.E. Steuart Dewar 11622 W 87th St, Burr Ridge, IL 60521, USA. CIS: [71165,1115]	34.6K	Yes	3.01	EXM	~70-80K	PTP ON DISK, CIS	$25.00
Zapp	Z-Syst c/o Santa Monica Software 28818 Selfridge Drive Malibu, CA 90265, USA	5.5K	Yes	2.03	EXM	~5K	PTP ON DISK, CIS	$10.00
95Buddy	Jeffrey Mattox, P.O. Box 45282, Madison, WI 53744, USA. CIS: [71044,2356]	19.8K	Yes (device driver)	2.3	.EXE	15.7K	PTP ON DISK, CIS	$40

Other Shareware/Freeware Programs for Appointment Book

We have also discovered these Appointment Book enhancing products. Unless otherwise indicated, they can be found on the May/June 93 issue of *The HP Palmtop Paper ON DISK* (in APPTBOOK.ZIP) or in Lib. 7 of CompuServe's HP HAND forum.

Calendar Reporting Program using .ABK file
CALRP.EXE
Bytes: 77,851

CALRPT Ver 2.51 produces formatted calendar reports to Screen, Printer, File from .ABK files converted to SideKick Plus format using the 95XLAT Utility (.APP). Features include: Notes; Reminders; Searching; Look Ahead, Task Notes, Many Options.

Calendar Supplement for the HP 95LX

Utility that provides a simple-to-use menu interface for selecting, removing, and merging Phone Book and Appointment Book entries.

This supplement to Appt's calendar lists holidays and important dates worldwide; lunar, solar, and time zone days; national holidays for over 150 countries; religious holidays for 6 major religions; zodiac days and more. Includes system utilities for battery life, file protection, and more.

(See page 46 of the Sep/Oct 92 issue for more on Calendar Supplement.)

■ COMMERCIAL: *ASP, P.O. Box 81270, Pittsburgh, PA 15217, USA; Phone: 412-422-4134; Fax: 412-422-4135.*

Change APPT alarm
MYBEEP.ZIP
Bytes: 3,279
Lets you replace the standard APPT alarm sound with a sound of your choice, as many notes as you want.

File Repair Service

This service requires that you send in your 95LX to recover corrupted Appointment Book or Phone Book files

■ COMMERCIAL: *File Recovery Services, 665 N.E Conifer Blvd., Corvallis, OR 97330, USA; Phone: 503-757-0044.*

HP Connectivity Pack

This PC file transfer program comes with a merge utility that lets you combine two .ABK or .PBK files. It also comes with a translate utility that you convert Appointment Book or Phone Book files to the formats of Lotus Metro, Borland Sidekick, Central Point PC Tools Desktop, or Conventional Data Format.

■ COMMERCIAL: *HP Dealers or EduCALC, 27953 Cabot Road, Laguna Niguel, CA 92677, USA; Phone: 800-677-7001 or 714-582-2637; Fax: 714-582-1445.*

95LX Appointment Book File Format
FORMAT.ABK
Bytes: 12,176(Lib: 8)
95LX APPT file format.

IntelliLink/XLT; IntelliLink for Windows
IntelliLink/XLT adds additional .ABK translation support to the 95-LX's Connectivity Pack. IntelliLink for Windows is a file transfer program that provides the translation utilities of IntelliLink/XLT.

■ COMMERCIAL: *IntelliLink, 98 Spit Brook Rd, #12, Nashua, NH 03062, USA; Phone: 603-888-0666; Fax: 603-888-9817.*

Mac Hypercard stack prints calendar from .ABK file
MACABK.SIT
Bytes: 35,516
Upgraded Hypercard 2.X Stack which reads .ABK file and creates a monthly calendar.

MacLink Plus: Connectivity Pack with Phone Book Translation

Macintosh-to-95LX connectivity package with Appointment Book-to-Mac file translation utilities.

■ COMMERCIAL: see page 61 this issue.

Print .ABK report with start/end times
ABKRPT.ZIP
Bytes: 33,200

Prints 80 column reports from .ABK file with starting/ending times and Notes data. Program runs on PC; written in Quick.

Produce Daily /Weekly/Monthly reports using 95LX .ABK file
CALTR.EXE
Bytes: 79,931

CALTRV Ver 1.05 produces formatted Daily, Weekly, Monthly calendar reports to Screen, Printer, and File from .ABK files converted to SideKick Plus format using the 95XLAT Utility (.APP). Features include: Notes; NEW: Print Next Day, Week, Month.

Translate .ABK to/ from Text File
ABKCVT.ZIP
Bytes: 16,768

ABKCVT converts .ABK files to/from tab-delimited text format for easy mass editing and use with other appointment/ calendar programs such as Calendar Creator Plus v. 5.0.

Translate .ABK to Organizer format
952ORG.ZIP
Bytes: 14,075

Converts .ABK and .PBK files to an ASCII format that is suitable for direct import into Lotus Organizer for Windows. This release converts the Todo list as well as appointments and phone records and supports 24 hour clock format.

Translate .ABK to Sun Open Windows Calendar Manager
SUNCAL.95
Bytes: 3,329

Program to transfer .ABK files to Calendar Manager format for Sun workstations, and compatibles. Requires Open Windows version 3, and SunOS 4.1.1 (Solaris 1.0) or higher. (This is NOT a Sun Microsystems product... use at your own risk.)

Translate Windows Calendar to .ABK format
CALABK.ZIP
Bytes: 9,720

This program will convert Windows Calendar (.CAL) files to .ABK format. Provisions are included for specifying end times and alarm lead times in the Windows Calendar.

Translate .ABK/.PBK files to ASCII
THOR.ZIP
Bytes: 26,299

Contains THORABK.EXE, which converts .ABK files to ASCII files and THORPBK.EXE, which converts .PBK files to ASCII and back.

■ CIS. ON DISK (M/A 93 in FREYJA.ZIP)

Translate .ABK files to comma delimited ASCII
ABKASC.ZIP
Bytes: 32,624
Single-step conversion of .ABK files into comma delimited records suitable for database applications. The notes section is parsed into 80 character fields. Customer and Job-type fields are supported for database applications.

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Database Programs for the HP 95LX

PHONE is a remarkably robust database program. However, there are a number of other more sophisticated database programs available. Take a look at Notes95, fastNOTES!, Pocket Sales Force, Info Manager, and QA Palm.

[In this article Marty looks at database programs for use as Personal Information Managers. However, these databases can be used generically to handle many types of information for business, medicine, scientific research, engineering, education and many other professions — Editor.]

By Marty Mankins

The main reason I purchased the 95LX was so that I could have a Personal Information Manager (PIM) with me at all times. I want to have access to phone numbers, notes, schedules and to-do lists wherever I am. I was also tired of having Post-its stuck all over the place, occasionally falling behind desks and getting lost.

The 95LX's built-in APPT, PHONE, and MEMO were a godsend. But I always thought it would be nice to have just one program handle all of this. In past issues of *The HP Palmtop Paper* we've seen the remarkable flexibility of the PHONE application. It has been used as a phone call tracker, a "cut-and-paste" database, medical information library, and much, much more. (Page 42 of this issue shows how a subscriber uses PHONE as a to-do list.) PHONE is indeed a simple but flexible database program that can be used creatively to handle many PIM functions. But it is not the only database program available for the 95LX.

This article will look at four database programs and one "screen generator" for the 95LX. I'll briefly describe how each works and it's main features. I'll also look at how easy it is to get up and running on each product, and who should use the product. I'll also discuss how each can be used as a PIM. So let's see how to get organized!

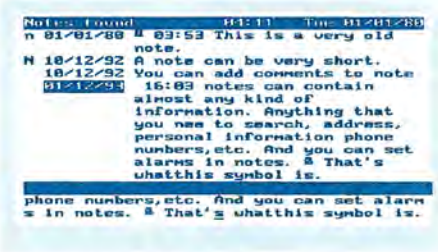
Notes95

If all you need is a quick and easy way to organize the odd notes and other information you jot down during the day, check this program out. Not system compliant.

This program lets you take down and quickly organize notes, important ideas, to-do lists, etc. The notes are sorted by the date they were entered, but you can do searches on key words and create subsets of the notes relating to a specific topic. It's main goal is to make taking notes easy — Notes95 accomplishes that goal!

If your needs are not demanding, Notes95 could be used for the to-do and daily notes functions of a basic PIM. Each entry could serve as a note, appointment, or to-do item.

Notes95 has a command menu similar to the 95LX's built-in applications. You can access the program's commands by pressing [MENU], highlighting the command and pressing [ENTER]. Or press [MENU] and the first letter of the command. For example, to find a note with a word or phrase in it, press [MENU] **F**ind. To sort the notes in your file by the date they were entered, press [MENU] **D**ate. You can also assign an Urgent status to notes and then display all your "urgents" by pressing [MENU] **U**rgent.



Notes95 displaying notes

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ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Marty is the publisher of Take It With You, The Newsletter for Palmtop Computing. He is also a Sysop for both the Aportfolio and Palmtop forums on CompuServe. He can be reached at [75300,1770] or at Perfection Applied, 454 West 1010 North, Orem, UT 94057.

Unfortunately, once you have used Find or Urgent to select a subset of the notes, there is no list command to display all the notes again. The only way I discovered to show all notes is to put a common word in each note and then do a find for that word.

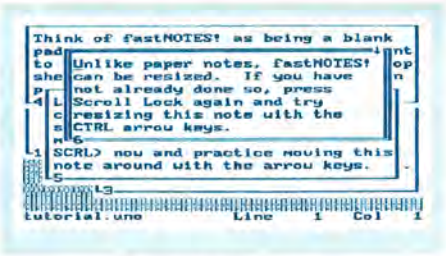
The main file (NOTE95.ZIP), has six files archived in it. Only NOTES95.EXE (non-system compliant — must be run from DOS) is required to run the program and create new data files. NOTES95.ACC has some sample notes in it and might help you get used to using the program.

To install the program, copy the NOTES95.EXE file to your 95LX. It's recommended that you create a separate directory to put this file in, as all data files will be stored in the same place as the program file. To run the program, press [FILER], highlight **NOTES95.EXE** and press [F4]. If you loaded NOTES95.ACC in the same directory, it will automatically load into Notes95 when you start.

fastNOTES!

Freeform database that lets you create, organize, and edit notes, and display them on the screen as overlapping windows. FastNOTES can be used with SWITCH! 2.0 to pop-up over the built-in applications or run from DOS.

FastNOTES! is a full-featured note taking program, storing information in screen "windows." These windows can be moved around the screen, set up to overlap, and increased or decreased in size (you can expand a note to take up the whole screen).



fastNOTES screen

Notes are numbered as they are created. Each time you make a new note, the number increments by one. You can add a description to each note that briefly describes what the note is about (press [F7] in Edit mode). For example, you could enter "TODO1" for your first priority todos, or you could enter "Miller" for notes relating to a client named Miller.

FastNOTES! can import and export text files, allowing you to consolidate multiple files into one place. I imported all of my MEMO text files into one fastNOTES! data file (one note for each MEMO file) and put the MEMO filename in the description field. It's very useful to have my MEMO notes consolidated. When I can't remember which specific note I'm looking for, I can search for notes based on a word or phrase in the note. I can also sort this file by pressing [F9] to list the notes and **O** to order them.

FastNOTES! could function as a limited PIM. You could keep important information with you in note form. You could keep to-do lists associated with a specific topic, important information (like car repairs, monthly goals, daily expenses meeting notes, etc.).

Individual appointments could be placed in note form, but I think they would get lost in the rest of the notes. It may be possible to keep separate data files, one for notes and one for appointments, and switch back and forth between them.

FastNOTES! uses either single character or function-key commands. For example, press **N**ew or [F7] to create a new note. You can also press [MENU] to access a command menu. You can also bring up the help menu by pressing [F1]. This gives you a complete list of the functions you have available. It takes a little time to learn the commands, but once you've got them down, fastNOTES! is pretty easy to use.

I reviewed a pre-release version of

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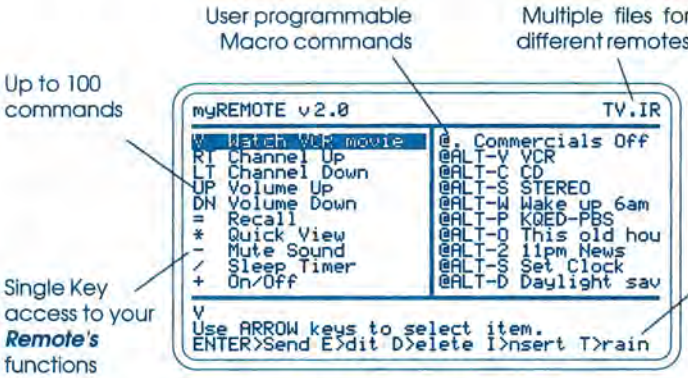

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fastNOTES! and did not get a chance to test the automatic installation features of the program. All of the program files should go in the same directory. I created A:\FASTNOTE and manually copied the program files there. There are two FastNOTES! configuration utilities that I was able to use and test. FASTCFG.EXE lets you change what a note looks like when it's on the top of the pile, in the background, or being edited. You can also use it to change the default size of new notes and allow backup files to be created. FNOTECFG.EXE lets you specify the default directory and the size of the memory block for the program. The main program file, FASTNOTE.EXE, is pretty small (54K). The program is SWITCHable, which means that it runs from DOS or it will act like a system-compliant program if it is used with SWITCH! 2.0, also available from ACE Technologies.

FastNOTES! also comes with FASTNREN.EXE, a utility to renumber your notes. This is useful if you've deleted some entries in between old and new notes. FastNOTES! specially formats its notes and stores them in a file with a .UNO extension. FastNOTES! comes with PBK2UNO.EXE, a small 10K utility that converts a Phone Book file into the fastNOTES! format. It's great for bringing your phone book entries into fastNOTES!

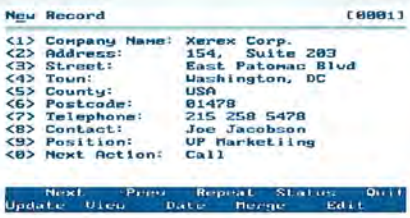
FastNOTES! is a more 95LX compatible version of UNO, discussed on page 10 of the July/August 1992 issue.

Pocket Sales Force

PSF is a system-compliant contact manager built around a user-definable database that lets you save names, phone numbers and notes or other information. PSF reminds you of people to call or places to be, but there is no way to set an appointment for a specific time.

If you need a database already customized for contact management, check out PSF first. (See page 8 of the May/June 92 issue for more on PSF.)

PSF's opening screen lists a menu of seven functions: **Action Today!** lets you cue up a list of contacts which are due action today; **Find company records** lets you search by any field in the database for a contact; **Input new sales leads** lets you add records; **Process new sales leads** finds and displays contacts that have not been assigned a date for next action; **Setup** lets you create a new database, configure the program, and change the names of the user-defined fields in the database; **Export to 1-2-3** puts the database into a Lotus format so that it can be imported into 1-2-3.



Pocket Sales Force data screen

Pocket Sales Force (PSF) starts out with a big plus – it is System-Manager compliant. PSF.EXM (the main program file) is transferred over by an installation program. It took me about five minutes to install the program and then another 20 seconds to start SWITCH! 2.0 from ACE Technologies, and assign the program to [ALT]-[APPT]. (If you don't have SWITCH!, check the PSF user manual for APNAME.LST installation instructions. More information on using the APNAME.LST file can be found on page 9 of the Mar/Apr 1992 issue.)

The 32-page user's manual was helpful, but hard to understand at times. I ended up just going into the program and entering data.

There were some small quirks that I ran into. One problem was saving a new entry. The documentation says that you need to press [ESC] to save a record. I had to press [ESC] two or three times before a record was confirmed as being saved. Also,

FOR THE HP 95LX

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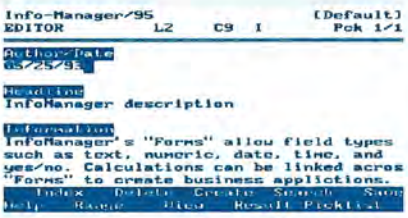
I was confused when the record I entered did not automatically appear in the **Action Today** list. I figured out that you had to go to the **Process New Sales Leads** option and assign an **Action date** to the record before it would appear in Action Today.

Other than those small problems, PSF is a great program. If you are handling a lot of information on your contacts and need something more feature laden, you also might take a look at ACT! by Contact Software (see page 5, May/Jun 92 issue).

INFO Manager

Combines a simple, free-form approach to storing information with powerful search features. Particularly useful for people who need to store different types of data (freeform text, contact information, numerical data) in one database.

A first glance, INFO Manager appears to be a simple, three-field database like the 95LX's built-in Phone Book. Instead of Name, Number and Address, each INFO Manager entry stores its data in **Author/Date**, **Headline**, and **Information** fields.



Main INFO Manager Screen

The Author/Date field contains information on who entered the data and when they entered it. The Headline field is for name/title of the entry.

Two features make help make INFO Manager powerful. The first is its flexible Information field, which can hold structured information stored in "Forms" (i.e. invoices, purchase orders, etc.). A programming language and linking between "Forms" allow the development of sophisticated business applications.

The second powerful feature is INFO Manager's ability to search the database for specific criteria or key words and create **Lists**, or subsets of the database. The **Pick List** function automatically keeps track of the last 50 entries you have created or modified. You can quickly display the Headline of each of these entries in a list, for quick review and selection. You can also search on key words placed in the Information field.

INFO Manager could be used as an effective to-do list. The date due and person responsible could be kept in the Author/Date field; a brief description of the item in the Headline field; and more complete information, in the Information field. The pick list gives you a quick look at the last 50 to-dos. You can do a more specific search on the person responsible, dates due, and key words.

Custom Palmtop Databases

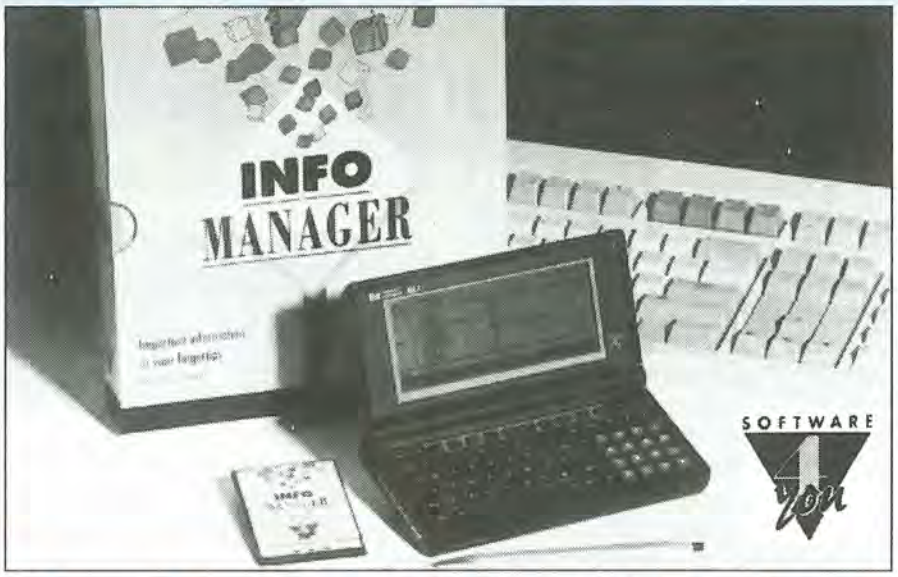
If canned packages don't suit your needs, Lighthouse Software offers a service to quickly create custom database applications using a proprietary database program specially designed for the palmtop platform.

The custom database has relational capabilities; allows for various data types; provides calculated, generated, and look up fields; is SWITCHable; exports data to Lotus or other applications; utilizes 95LX power management; and runs on 95LX and PCs.

Lighthouse can provide a well tested and completely documented custom database application in less than a month.

[For more information on Lighthouse see display ad, page 9 this issue.]

Finally, a Database With a Difference!



Info-Manager, the free-form database is also available for your desktop PC

A Free-form Database allowing you to combine structured and unstructured data together in a single record.

Support wildcard and Boolean searches for lightning quick data retrieval.

Instant recall of your last 50 search inquiries or records with the press of a button.

One keystroke word indexing.

Unlimited forms per record, unlimited fields per form.

Performs mathematical calculations. Great for Invoicing, Inventory, and Quotations.

Form customizer allows you to update and change data layouts quickly and easily.

System manager compliant.

The Import/Export features allows easy data transfer with other software.

The versitile Print Menu allows the unlimited creation of custom reports.

The Macro Recorder helps make short work of repeated database operations with one keystroke.

Configured for most printers including the HP Laser Jet and the 82240-A Infrared Printer.

System Requirements

PC Version: MS-DOS 3.0 or higher, 640K RAM.

95LX Version: HP 95LX Palmtop with 512K RAM.

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Dealers Welcome!

INFO Manager has other powerful features, including the ability to edit your data, create macros for repetitive key strokes, print reports, and transfer information between the program and other software applications.

The current version of INFO Manager has problems installing with a data compression program loaded in the 95LX. This makes it difficult to use with Stacker 2.0 or ACE DoubleCards. I did install it successfully on my SunDisk 10MB Flash ROM card.

INFO Manager comes with a desktop PC version and a system compliant 95LX version that share features. You can download the INFO Manager database into your 95LX for portability, and upload any changes to your desktop PC when you return to the office. The 95LX version is system compliant, your INFO Manager data file will have the same size limitations as the built-in applications (approximately 50K of data).

Product Comparison Chart

Product	Disk Space	System RAM	SysMgr Compliant?
Notes95	120K	100K	No
fastNOTES!	130K	65K	With SWITCH!
Pocket Sales Force	140K	80K	Yes
Info Manager	450K to install 160K after install files removed.	100K	Yes

qaPalm 1.0: a "Screen Generator"

qaPalm lets users create a customized screen for collecting data. However, you must export the data file to another database program if you want to sort it or generate reports. Therefore, qaPALM can not be used as a stand-alone database program.

qaPalm is a program that lets you design a data entry screen. qaPalm is actually two programs; a screen generator and a run-time module. The screen generator runs on a MS-DOS desktop computer. qaPalm displays a region 40 characters wide by 14 lines long in the middle of your PC's display. Creating a data entry form is as easy as moving the cursor to a spot on the screen, typing in the label of the field, and setting the attributes and field types with the Field Options menu and submenus. qaPalm comes with an emulation feature that lets you test the data entry screen on your PC before transferring it to the 95LX.

After you have created the data entry screen you desire, the screen generator creates a data entry run-time program that you transfer to the 95LX.

qaPalm creates a data collection program, not a true database. You use it to collect data qaPalm's own file format. You can then download the file to a dBASE file format for use with another dBASE-compatible database.

qaPalm does not have report generating, searching, or sorting capabilities. However, while running a qaPalm application on the 95LX, you can press ALT-Lotus to create a Lotus 1-2-3 file (same filename, .WK1 extension). You can then use 1-2-3 to analyze, sort, or develop reports.

After you have created the run-time module, you can use DOS Connect and qaPalm to transfer the data entry program from your desktop to the 95LX. qaPalm automatically creates a subdirectory to hold the program, a subdirectory to hold related files, and a batch file to run the program on your 95LX. The data collection program is not system-compliant and must be run from FILER.

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The runtime program will work on the earlier 512K Palmtop, but a 1MB 95LX with a RAM card is recommended for serious use.

Other Database Programs

These additional database programs were not tested for this article.

ACT! — a powerful, popular contact management program built-around a database. See page 5, May/Jun 1992 issue for more information.

EFMS — Everyone's Information Management System is a simple flat-file database with user defined screens, indexes, and simple report generation capabilities. See PTP Sep/Oct 92 page 46.

InfoSelect - a "random information processor" that makes it easy to save and later find odd pieces of information that never seem to fit into a regular database. See page 35, Jan/Feb 93 issue for using it on the 95LX.

Lotus 1-2-3 — built into the 95LX. Can be used as text database. See *HP 95LX User's Guide*, page 5-2 for more information.

KIV - Keep In View is a cross between an outliner and a free-form database. See PTP Sep/Oct 92 page 48.

Shareware/Freeware Mentioned in This Article

On the HP Palmtop Paper ON DISK

*CIS **SHR NOTES95.ZIP Mar/Apr 1993
*CIS **SHR UNO.ZIP May/Jun 1992
*CIS **SHR EFMS Sep/Oct 92

**CIS — Also available in the HP Handhelds forum of CompuServe.*

***SHR — SHAREWARE is software distributed free of charge for evaluation purposes only. If you decide to use it, you must pay the author the shareware fee. This goes for any shareware found on The HP Palmtop Paper ON DISK or CompuServe.*

*AOL -many of these files may be found on American Online in the Palmtop Library (keyword **Palmtop**).*

Order Information

ACT! for the 95LX — $99
Contact manager for the 95LX.
CONTACT: *Contact Software International, 1840 Hutton Drive, #200, Carrollton, TX 75006, USA; Phone: 800-365-0606 or 214-919-9500; Fax: 214-919-9750.*

EFMS — $39
Everyone's File Management System, a flat file database.
CONTACT: *Charles Kingston, Box 564, Elmsford, NY 10523, USA; Phone: 914-949-7870.*

fastNOTES! — $69
Creates electronic pop-up notes for the 95LX.
CONTACT: *ACE Technologies, Inc., 2880 Zanker Road, Suite 103, San Jose, CA 95134, USA; Phone: 800-825-9977 or 408-428-9722; Fax: 408-428-9721.*

Info Manager — Call
Free-form database program that integrates text-oriented and structured data.
US CONTACT: *4-You Software, 20527 S. Vermont Ave., Suite 8, Torrance, CA 90502, USA; Phone: 310-323-7740; Fax: 310-538-8968.*

InfoSelect — $149
"Random information processor."
CONTACT: *Micro Logic Corp., P.O. Box 70, Hackensack, NJ 07602, USA; Phone: 800-342-5930 or 201-342-6518; Fax: 201-342-0370.*

Keep In View — $69.96
Database "information organizer."
CONTACT: *Lucid Corp., 101 W. Renner Rd., Suite 450, Richardson, TX 75082, USA; Phone: 800-92LUCID or 214-994-8100; Fax: 214-994-8103.*

Pocket Sales Force — Call
Contact manager with user-definable database program.
CONTACT: *CM Software, Unit 3, Ashcroft Close, Botley, Oxford OX2 9SE, UNITED KINGDOM; Phone: +44 0865 864844; Fax: +44 0865 864856.*

qaPalm — $145
A screen generator for creating a data collection program.
CONTACT: *QA Systems, Inc., 220 East 42nd Street, New York, NY 10017, USA; Phone: 800-945-1717 or 212-599-1717; Fax: 212-599-2614.*

SWITCH! 2.0 — $69
Provides a menu-driven environment for your DOS programs. Allows SWITCHable applications to operate as built-in applications.
CONTACT: *ACE Technologies, Inc., 2880 Zanker Road, Suite 103, San Jose, CA 95134, USA; Phone: 800-825-9977 or 408-428-9722; Fax: 408-428-9721.*

NOTE: Price listed is suggested retail price, not including shipping and handling. You may be able to purchase the product for less from a software retailer.

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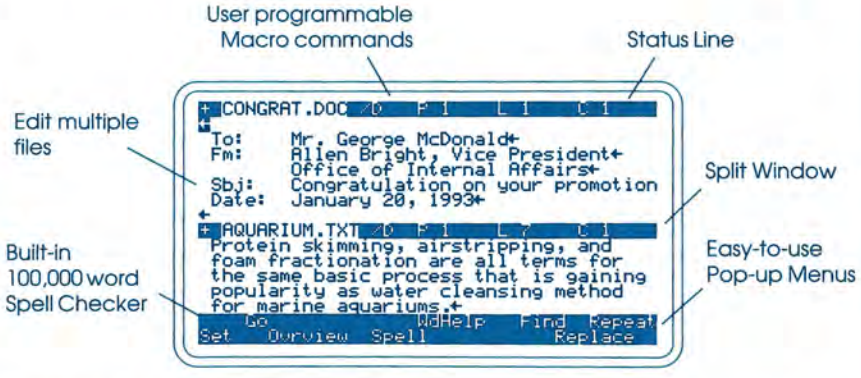

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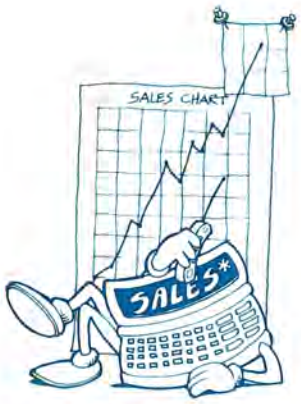
User Profiles: The 95LX in Sales



Take a look at how this group of sales professionals uses the HP 95LX to manage their time better – and increase sales!

In previous issues we focused on how individual users got the most out of their 95LX. From time to time we'll take a slightly different approach and give you a taste of the combined experience of a specific group of professionals.

In this article, a group of sales professionals tell you how they use the 95LX. In future articles we'll profile accountants, engineers, physicians, real estate professionals, and more.

Towards a Truly Mobile Office

Sales is a profession on the go. Windows of opportunity open and close quickly, at unexpected times, in unexpected places. A successful sales professional does his or her homework and is prepared to take advantage of opportunities, wherever or whenever they arise.

Then came the "mobile office." Sales and other professionals were no longer tied down to a desk in a building on the third floor. They began to carry all the necessary information and capabilities with them wherever they were. Sales professionals have always carried samples of their wares, but soon they were carrying portable computers, lightweight printers, modems, and cellular phones. The office may have been mobile, but it was also getting crowded. And still the mobile office was big enough that they had to leave it in their car or motel room when they went on sales calls.

Enter the 95LX

Finally, HP 95LX came along, with HP CALC and Lotus to crunch numbers, Phone Book to organize contact information, Appointment Book to schedule time, COMM for mobile communications, and MEMO to jot down quick notes. Best of all, it was in your pocket when you needed it.

Although many sales professionals use contact managers like Pocket Sales Force and ACT!, they still give the built-in applications a real work out. They use the PHONE application extensively to keep track of customers, vendors, prospects, products, voice mail extensions, and personal contacts. They use APPT to schedule meetings, sales calls, appointments, call backs, and travel schedules. They use MEMO for letters and notes during meetings. They use Lotus and HP CALC for budgets, comparison of cost and performance of competitors products, tracking orders, commissions, quotas, personal stocks, car service records and oil changes. Here are some of the unique ways in which they take advantage of the 95LX.

Trade billions at dinner

David J. Pierce Jones, Director, CS First Boston Japan Ltd., Tokyo, Japan.

I am a banker who trades options in Tokyo, Japan. Each evening I download a full option pricing system written in Lotus from my networked desktop PC to the 95LX with the latest interest rates, volatilities, and market prices. By having all this information in my pocket I can trade forms outside the office with clients in Europe or the USA. This works so well that while having dinner at a Tokyo restaurant, I was once able to trade 20 billion yen of Nikkei 225 options.

Travel light and healthy with all your product information

Kurt M. Giesselman, Fortune 100 salesperson, California, USA. CompuServe ID: [72356,1742]

I am responsible for a specific line of products in the western third of the United States and portions of western Canada. I have a rigorous travel schedule; most business trips last a week, stopping in as many as three cities per day. Therefore, I am a firm believer in traveling light. Now, I can leave all 17 pounds of my laptop at home.

LOTUS: My product line is over 400 items, each with specific characteristics and specifications.I store this information in a 1-2-3 worksheet file in the 95LX and use Lotus' MENU Range Search function to identify the best product for my customer's application quickly.

PHONE: I actually have six differ-

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Compatible with the HP 100LX

ent phone directories. I use the cut and paste feature to move a complete record from the prospects directory to the current customer directory when I "land" a new account. I include in the Address field key contacts and even travel directions to the account. I also have a phone book directory of hotels I have stayed at or read about, one for restaurants, and another directory of speciality stores (wine, antiques, etc.).

APPT: I use the To-do list during customer calls to capture requests for information. I even use it as a tickler file by creating To-dos with a future date to remind me to follow up on customer requests. Very few things have fallen through the cracks since the 95LX arrived. The priority rankings really help my organization, too!

TRAVELWARE 1.4 (written by RSE, first described on page 42 of the Fall 91 issue): This fantastic travel record keeper can be configured to fit the 95LX's screen. I record all my flights, hotel stays, rental cars, and miscellaneous expenditures for a month with this program. I retain a copy of each month's record on my desk top computer when I backup my files.

HEALTH and DIET: My most recent purchase is a food tracking program for DOS based computers. It is written for an 80 X 24 screen, but seems to center the proper area of the screen on my 95LX. The program comes with a database of several thousand food items and allows adding to that database. Be sure to buy the regular Health and Diet program, not the Pro version for Windows.

No more forms to carry and a 35% increase in sales

A. Greg Outlaw, computer hardware and software sales, P3 Corporation, Greenville, SC.

It is my brain, life-saver, crucial deal-closer, remote office, and "Don't leave home without it" tool. I never knew how easy my job could be until I bought the 95LX!

I have increased my actual sales by over 34% since my purchase of the 95LX. I believe this is directly related to the fact that I am so organized, I no longer miss a crucial sales opportunity.

COMM: I use my 95LX and a modem to communicate with my office to send and receive E-mail and update my contact database. If I want a hard copy, I have my E-mail application access the Fax modem on the network file server and send me the selected messages. I don't bother carrying forms for customers to sign anymore. Instead, I merely dial up our network and have the modem server send the exact forms I need to the fax machine at the clients office.

LOTUS: Our client contact database is in UNIX. It can be translated to an ASCII format that can be used as a Lotus database. This allows me to download client contact information to Lotus on the 95LX or transfer my files from Lotus to the client database on the network.

I use the break-even analysis program from page 34 of the March/April 1992 issue of *The HP Palmtop Paper* to cost justify my projects. I create a MEMO file that describes the project and use the same name for the Lotus file (except with a .WK1 extension). I put them in my 123 directory for easy access.

APPT: I use the timer function as an alarm clock. I am a light sleeper and have no problem hearing the speaker. If you want to make it a little louder set it on a hard surface like wood or metal.

PHONE: I do all the purchasing and negotiating with vendors. I enter codes on the last line of the Address field and use the F6 (Only) function to search my phone book database for exact matches. Below are a list of the codes I use:

```
@A - action items to follow-up
@C - other clients
@D - doctor's offices
@H - hot prospects
@L - law firms
@M - manufacturers
@P - personal numbers
@V - vendors
```

For example, an Only search on **@M@V@A** would list the manufacturers from whom I buy directly and I have an additional action item to follow-up.

MEMO: I use MEMO files to describe projects I am currently working on. I have several files in a projects directory. I created a User Defined Char key to automatically take me to my project directory and list the files. I merely arrow to the file and strike return to bring it up.

I can store as many projects as I like using this system.

Movie distributor has all the reviews

Jeffrey C. Zorn, Farmington Hills, MI, USA. CompuServe ID: [71165,1650].

LOTUS: I created a simple spreadsheet with movie reviews for our customers (MOVIE.WK1 💾). I was able to input the information at any time while reading about a video movie, thus keeping my file updated. This worksheet contained the name of the movie, studio, box office gross, video release date, video pre-order date, theatrical release date (if applicable), the major stars, a rating from A-C and a short blurb.

Most of the information was supplied by the video trade publications and the studios. This allowed me to have an up-to-the-minute listing of all movies being released at any given time. I could search by order date, name or release date, etc. I was also able to print this out by transferring it with the connectivity pack to my PC. Then I would make copies for our other representatives. It was a great sales tool and I impressed the management by having the information literally at my fingertips. With the addition of a small printer to use with the 95LX, I could leave the customer a completely current printout.

The best thing to happen was the 1992 Palmtop Paper subscriber disk, which included the very useful APPT utility, Week-at-a-Glance (WEEKABK3.ZIP 💾).

Increases time available for sales calls – quicker closes

Peter Eaton, regional sales manager for equipment leasing company.

I've consolidated my telephone directory, business card holder, Rolodex, and prospecting notebook into the 95LX. All my files are now available for updating right after my sales call. I telemarket directly from my car with a cellular phone and Phone Book. This saves me valuable time and has added measurably to the number of calls I can make in one day.

Most importantly, I can run the cash flow analysis while I am with the customer, jump back to our pricing program and eliminate at least two additional sales calls in closing the sale.

Keep competitive information at your figure tips

Gene Climer, Computer Equipment Sales & Leasing , Lansing, IL USA

The convenience of having all the data I need, wherever I am, has allowed me to be more productive and creative.

MEMO: I'm on the road a lot and keep my service record for my car in MEMO. I don't need to go through my files at home or in the car. I keep the date and description of the service and enter future service appointments (i.e. oil changes, etc.) in Appointment Book.

Paperless office and still stays in touch with HAM radio

Thomas V. Walker, Manufacturers representative, Costa Mesa CA, USA

I find myself more organized and closer than ever to a paperless office with my 95LX. I am a manufacturers representative selling electronic components. I represent 10 manufacturers and have an account base of about 2,500 customers.

PHONE: I use PHONE as minidatabase for, frequently called numbers, specific accounts, HAM radio frequencies.

COMM: I connect the 95LX to a radio frequency modem which is attached to a VHF receiver operating on HAM radio frequencies. This is called Packet Radio. I can then communicate with other HAM radio operators who use similar equipment with their personal computers. It's like connecting to a BBS without the phone lines. The 95LX is particularly handy in this way, as I can quickly pack it up and go anywhere, and still be able to keep in touch with Packet Radio.

Order Information

ACT! – $99
SWITCHable contact management software.

CONTACT: *Contact Software International, 1840 Hutton Drive, #200, Carrollton, TX 75006, USA; Phone: 800-365-0606 or 214-919-9500; Fax: 214-919-9750.*

Pocket Sales Force – $99.95
System-Manager compliant contact management software.

CONTACT: *CM Software, Unit 3, Ashcroft Close, Botley, Oxfort OX2 9SE, UNITED KINGDOM; Phone: +44 0865 864844; Fax: +44 0865 864856.*

Health & Diet – $19.95
Food tracking program for DOS computers. Requires 500K + System RAM and 1.2MB disk space (you will need a RAM card). Health & Diet Pro and the Windows versions do not work on the 95LX or the 100-LX.

CONTACT: *Digest Systems Research Inc., 10085 Scripps Ranch Court, San Diego, CA 92131, USA; Phone: 619-695-3598.*

Also available at other retail outlets such as Sears, Walmart, Egghead, CompUSA, etc.

NOTE: Price listed is suggested retail price, not including shipping and handling. You may be able to purchase the product for less from a software retailer.

💾💾💾

Shareware/Freeware Mentioned in This Article

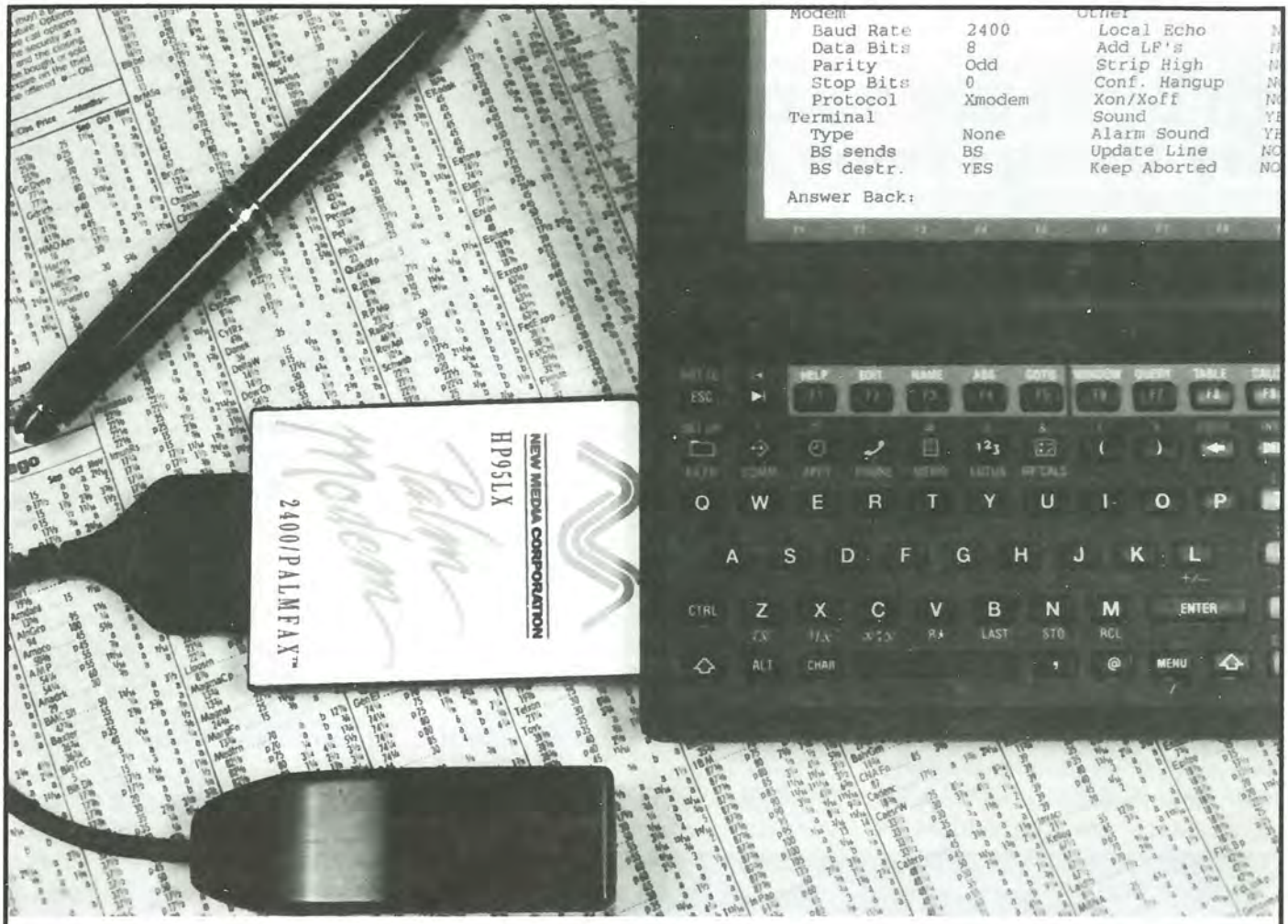
On the HP Palmtop Paper ON DISK

*CIS **SHR TRAVELWARE M/J 93
*CIS WEEKABK N/D 92
MOVIE.WK1 M/J 93

**CIS – Also available in the HP Handhelds forum of CompuServe.*

***SHR – SHAREWARE is software distributed free of charge for evaluation purposes only. If you decide to use it, you must pay the author the shareware fee. This goes for any shareware found on The HP Palmtop Paper ON DISK or CompuServe.*

*AOL -many of these files may be found on American Online in the Palmtop Library (keyword **Palmtop**).*



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To-Do or Not To-Do? Try Using Phone Instead!

Not satisfied with the Appointment Book's To-Do list function? See how this user created a versatile, easy-to-use to-do list using Phone Book.

[Although this article was written for the 95LX, the tips given should be useful to users of the new HP 100LX Palmtop PC – Editor.]

By Glenn C. Etelson
CompuServe ID: [70550,1074]

The HP 95LX's built-in applications, DOS capability, versatility and portability make it one of the most significant products recently produced for personal management. The only function that does not meet my needs is APPT's built-in "To-do" list ([F10] from the main Appointment Book screen).

What To Do with To-Do?

The built-in to-do function has several problems which make it impractical for me to use as a comprehensive task-oriented reminder system. I have a substantial number of to-dos and find scrolling through the list item by item cumbersome. I also find doing searches difficult. I could use the Find ([F7]) function, but only if I already know what the to-do is. Finally, the built-in to-do list has internally separated priorities, but the software does not provide a way to go directly to a given priority without scrolling through every item listed in every previous priority.

In addition to the above, deleting a single to-do within a long list of to-dos was incredibly inefficient. Lets say you have a list of 60 to-dos and decide one morning to clean out the list. Each time you press [F3] (Cut) to delete a to-do, the curser jumps back toward the beginning of the to-do list. This forces you to scroll through the entire list to get back to the same spot. This makes it difficult to delete numerous items from a long list of to-dos without spending a lot of time scrolling and scrolling ....

I unsuccessfully tried creating macros (User Keys) to cure each one of these problems. I also tried titling each of the priorities (e.g. WORK, PERSONAL, CALLS, etc.) and setting up macros to take me to those titles. This approach took up to many macro keys and valuable screen space.

I tried using the built-in MEMO function as a to-do list by setting up a MEMO file called TODO.TXT and having each to-do listed as a sentence within a text file. I found the task of inserting, modifying and deleting to-do items cumbersome with this approach. Further, there was no way to attach and hide additional information to the to-do item, like you can from within APPT by pressing [F6] (Note). Finally, MEMO did not provide me an easy way to prioritize my to-do items.

Flexible Phone Book

Many articles in this publication have demonstrated the flexibility of the built-in Phone Book application. PHONE has been used for many tasks other than tracking phone numbers and addresses. It has excellent search features, the ability to display

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ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Glenn is an attorney with Conroy, Ballman & Dameron of Gaithersburg MD, USA. He specializes in commercial litigation and uses his 95LX extensively in his work. Glenn says that his own PHONE to-do list is several hundred items long.

all or part of an entry, and automatic alphabetization of its entries. With a little experimentation, PHONE turned out to be the solution to my to-do list problems.

Phone Book Basics

PHONE looks like an electronic "Rolodex." It's a simple, "flat-file" database program with three fields: Name, Number, and Address. Open PHONE and press [F8] to insert a new "card" into PHONE. Press [F8] (Insert) to enter another card. Press [F10] (Done) to go back to the Index screen.

When first opened, PHONE displays an "index" view to give you a summary of the information stored on each card. You see a single line for each card. Each line has the first 19 characters in the Name field followed by the first 18 characters in the Number field.

Move your cursor to any line and press [ENTER] or [F10] (Card) and you see the Card view, a complete display of all the information on the card. While in Card view, you can edit any information on the card using the arrow keys. (More on the basics of PHONE can be found on page 6-1 of the *HP 95LX Quick Start Guide*. There have been many articles on using PHONE in past issues of *The HP Palmtop Paper*.)

Phone Book To-Do List

I created a separate .PBK file for my to-do list (TODO.PBK) and set up a macro (User Key) to take me to this file from within PHONE (see "User Keys" in the *HP 95LX User's Guide*). I have another macro to take me to my regular phone book (PHONE.PBK). I keep TODO.PBK as the default file so that every time I press [PHONE], the to-do list comes up.

The macro to switch from TODO .PBK to my regular phone book is as follows (assumes that both files are in C:_DAT).

```
{MENU}fs{ENTER}y{MENU}fo
phone.pbk{ENTER}
```

PHONE has three fields for information: Name, Number, and Address. Even though HP chiseled those field names into ROM, you can put any information you want into them. (The current version of 95Buddy lets you change field names.)

In my PHONE to-do list, I enter the task in Name, a reference in Number, and any other information about the to-do item in Address.

Card view of Phone Book to-do entry

The index view only shows the first 19 characters of the Name and Number fields in PHONE, although each field allows 30 characters to be entered. The additional information in these fields and the information in the Address field is hidden, much like a Note is in the Appointment Book.

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To see the hidden information in my PHONE to-do list, I highlight the desired item in the index view and hit ENTER.

Index view of Phone Book to-do entry

Structuring a Phone Book To-Do Entry

Go into any Phone Book file and press a letter and you immediately go to the first entry beginning with that letter (in the Name field). This ability lets me set up categories and priorities in my Phone Book to-do list.

I begin all of my task entries in the Name field with a "group letter," either **P** or **W**, followed by a blank space and a description of the task. **P** indicates my personal to-dos and **W** my work-related to-dos. PHONE automatically sorts its entries alphabetically. Every time I call up my PHONE to-do list, all of my personal to-dos are grouped together at the beginning of the list and all of the work to-dos at the end. Furthermore, if I want to go to one specific group, for example, my work to-dos, all I need to do is press **w** and I automatically jump down to the first entry with a W at the beginning. Note that I am not using the Find (F7) function. Though I only have two groups, you can have as many as you want and use any symbol.

Prioritizing Group Entries

PHONE's automatic alphabetical sequencing of the list also allows you to both prioritize to-dos within any group and to create task oriented categories within any group or priority. Prioritize an entry by adding a "priority number" after the group letter. In my system, 1 is the highest priority and 9 the lowest. So my highest priority personal to-dos begin with a **p1**, my second priority personals with a **p2**, and so on. PHONE automatically alphabetizes and lists the **p1** priorities first, **p2** priorities second and so on. I do the same with my work-related to-dos (w1, w2, etc.). A to-do list displayed from PHONE's Index view might look something like this:

```
p1 Contact broker      re: IRA Status
p1 Order tux for       Jons wedding
p2 Pick up gift for    Ayleen
p3 Setup oil change    Pauls Auto
p4 Make dinner         reservations at Hyatt
w1 Go over Flander     case with Schwartz
w1 File discovery      motion, Chine case
w1 Write to Carson     re Noland case
w2 Write to city       re Bowes case
w3 Contact Sheriff     re Johnson case
w4 Make 6/20 meeting   with Johnson
```

Each group remains separated and priorities remain intact within each group. To go to a specific group/priority, I press the group letter and the priority number (i.e. **p3** for third level priority personal to-dos).

This PHONE to-do list system, as it stands, goes beyond the APPT's to-do function. It can organize many separate to-do groups by topic and prioritize within each of those topic groups. Note that you are not limited to nine priorities. You could easily have 100 priorities (01-99). Just make sure you list priorities 1-9 as 01-09 so that PHONE will alphabetize the list properly.

Creating Task-Oriented Categories

I create task-oriented sub-categories within both personal and work-related to-dos. For example, in to-dos where I need to call somebody, I always follow the group letter, priority number and space with the word CALL. The entry might look something like this:

```
p1 CALL Lunch, 12:45, Joyce
```

If I need to write a letter, I always begin with the word LETTER, meetings begin with MEET, etc. By adopting this convention, PHONE creates task categories within each group and priority. All personal CALLs with the same priority are listed together, all LETTERs with the same priority are listed together, etc.

The sample to-do list above would now look something like this displayed in the Index view:

```
p1 CALL, broker re:    IRA Status
p1 CALL, order tux     for Jons wedding
p2 PICK UP, gift       for Ayleen
p3 CALL, Pauls auto    arrange oil change
p4 CALL, Hyatt         dinner reservations
w1 FILE, discovery     Chine case
w1 LETTER, Carson      re Noland case
w1 MEETING, Schwartz   re Flander case
w2 LETTER, to city     re Bowes case
w3 CALL, Sheriff       re Johnson case
w4 CALL, Johnson,      arrange 6/20 meet
```

Note that the order in which some of the items appear has changed because PHONE is now alphabetizing the entry based on the task key word.

I mentioned earlier that only the first 19 characters each of the Name and Number fields are displayed in PHONE's Index view. You can put different information in each of those two fields or structure your entries in those fields so that they read as one continuous sentence when they are displayed. I use the former approach. In the Name field, I put the group letter (p or w), the priority (1-9 followed by a space) and the task category (CALL, MEET, etc.). In the Number field I would put a word or

MR. FOSTER'S
TWISTERS

Pete's Palmtop plopped on top of Pat's potted palm.

two to remind me about the purpose of the to-do. For instance, in the Name field I might have **p4 CALL Mark Scardina**. In the Number field I might have **re: SWITCH!**. I might then place specific questions for Mark in the Address field, which would be hidden in PHONE's Index view, but would appear by highlighting the entry and pressing [ENTER].

Displaying To-Dos

PHONE's [F6] (Only) function lets me display only those to-dos which contain a certain word. I use this to list subsets of my to-do list. For example, if I only want to see my w1 priorities, I press [F6], type in **w1** and press [ENTER]. If I want to see all of my phone calls, what ever the priority, I press [F6], type in **call**, and press [ENTER]. I don't use key words (call, letter, etc.) anywhere else in the card entry because it can throw off the Only search.

If I want to list all to-dos relating to a specific person, for example Hal Goldstein, I press [F6], type in **Hal Goldstein**, and press [ENTER]. PHONE lists all to-dos that have Hal's name in them. If I forget to put his name in the to-do, or misspell it, I'm out of luck. When the Hal Goldstein to-dos are displayed, they remain divided by group, priority and task. To go back to the complete to-do list, press [F6] [ENTER].

Finally, PHONE lets me tag to-do items. I highlight the desired item and press [F9] (Tag). I use it to emphasize immediate daily to-dos. Each morning I will tag items that must be done that day.

Other Features and Benefits of PHONE To-Do List

The phone book also eliminates the delete problem described earlier. Highlight the item to be deleted and press [F3] (Cut). The to-do is deleted, the cursor moves up to the previous entry and centers it on the screen.

The PHONE to-do list also lets you get more information on a given screen. APPT's to-do list takes up an entire line at the top for the date and an entire line for each priority title. At the extreme, if you have five priorities with only one entry per priority, the entire screen will be taken up by just five to-do items. By contrast, you will always be able to display 11 PHONE to-dos on a single screen.

Additionally, APPT's to-do screen only shows 27 characters per entry while the PHONE index display shows 38.

PHONE to-do lists are also easier to review. The Phone Book has the ability to scroll by page. This feature is lacking in APPT's to-do. Second, PHONE very quickly lets you know if it can't find a word you're looking for. (APPT will spend minutes looking years into the future for a word or phrase.)

PHONE Does it Better!

PHONE lets you create an effective, prioritized to-do list, divided into topics and tasks. You can display two fields of information and have more information hidden, and available in the card view. Deleting and scrolling are more efficient and the [F6] (Only) and [F9] (Tag) functions add flexibility to the system. Finally, you can move between specific priorities, groups, and tasks easily. Best of all, it's built-in. You don't have to go out and buy someone else's software. Its amazing, try it!

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Enhance 1-2-3 with Keystroke Macros or User Keys

1 2 3

LOTUS

Ed shows how you can use Lotus 1-2-3 keystroke macros or 95LX System Macros (User Defined Keys) to make using 1-2-3 on the HP 95LX a little easier.

[Although this article was written for the 95LX, the tips given should be useful to users of the new HP 100LX Palmtop PC – Editor.]

By Ed Keefe

Veteran users of 1-2-3 are familiar with the power of Lotus macros. They've discovered what great time-savers macros can be. On the other hand, new users take one look at the instructions for creating macros and shake their head in wonderment. Granted, Lotus macros can become quite complex. But that doesn't have to be the case.

In this article, we'll take a look at a few simple macros that you can create. All you'll need is your 95LX and a few minutes.

To show you how easy it is to create a Lotus macro, let's suppose that you wanted to change the format for a range of numbers to the currency format, with two numbers after the decimal point. To do this in 1-2-3, you'd press the following keys: [MENU] **R**ange **F**ormat **C**urrency **2** [ENTER], and then type in the range (e.g. A1..D5), or use the arrow keys to highlight the range. Finally you would press [ENTER]. You can just as easily create a Lotus macro for this keystroke sequence.

How to Create Lotus Keystroke Macros

The process for creating a Lotus keystroke macro is easier to do than it is to explain.

Lotus stores its macros in empty cells, so the first thing you have to do is move the cursor to a spot in your worksheet that won't be used for anything else. Then type in an apostrophe ('), the keystrokes you want, and then press [ENTER]. For example, to create a macro to format a range of cells to display two places after the decimal point in currency (e.g. 25.98), you would move to an empty cell (say, D1), type in **'/rfc2~** and press [ENTER]. You've created a keystroke macro – that's all there is to it. (The keystrokes '/rfc2~ are called the "label." Note the leading apostrophe. Without this, you'd activate the 1-2-3 menu instead of writing a keystroke macro. Also note that the symbol in the macro language for [MENU] is the foreslash (/) and the symbol for [ENTER] is the tilde (~).)

There is also a macro Learn mode that lets Lotus record your keystrokes into macro instructions. For more on this feature, see page 13-27 of the *HP 95LX User's Guide.*

You can access this macro by pressing [ALT]-[F3] (Macro to run:), type in the cell where the macro is located (i.e. D1), and press [ENTER]. 1-2-3 will read the macro in D1 and play back the keystrokes as if you had just typed them in. The message "Range to format: A1..A1" will appear on the prompt line. (The A1..A1 part of the message will vary depending on the current location of the cursor.) You would then type in the range and press [ENTER].

You can run a keystroke macro more easily by doing the following. First, give the cell in which the macro is located a special name. To do this, press [MENU] **R**ange **N**ame **C**reate **\F** [ENTER] **D1** [ENTER], where \F is the name you've assigned to the cell, and D1 is the location of the macro. Note that the backslash (\) key on the 95LX is the Shifted [)], not [MENU]. The backslash stands for ALT in 1-2-3 macro language. So to activate the macro located in D1, all you do is press [ALT]-[F].

It's kind of magical to press two keys and watch a large series of keystrokes executed automatically. It's this magic that has hooked a lot of good people into creating large libraries of Lotus keystroke macros.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Ed Keefe is an author, programmer, computer science instructor, and long-time contributor to support publications for HP computers. He is the president of the FastAid Company, 314 S.W. Logan, Ankeny, IA 50021. Ed's CompuServe ID# is [75300,3667].

Creating a Lotus Macro Library

Here's another time and keystroke saver that will keep you from having to type your macros into the next spreadsheet you develop.

The procedure for doing this is a little more complicated than creating a single macro. It assumes that you've created several such macros and want to gather them together so that you can easily retrieve them.

The process involves creating a separate spreadsheet with all of your keystroke macros in it. After opening a new, blank worksheet, use the following procedure to copy individual keystroke macros to it.

Press [MENU] **F**ile **C**ombine **C**opy **N**amed/Specified-Range. You're then asked to key in the "Range name or address:". Reply by typing in the name you've given to your keystroke macro (\F in the above example) and press [ENTER]. Then you're asked to supply the name of the worksheet file that contains this macro. Highlight the filename and press [ENTER]. The macro appears in the new worksheet.

You'll repeat this procedure to copy your other macros to this worksheet. Before you do, here's another tip to organize your macro library and make it look like it was done by a pro.

Copy each of your macros to a separate cell in column B of the spreadsheet. You must leave at least one blank cell between each macro.

In the cell to the left of the macro, type in the name of macro. For example, suppose you have **'/rfc2** in cell B1. Then in cell A1, you might type **'\F** which is the name of the macro. (Don't forget the leading apostrophe.) Do the same for any other macros that you want to put in your macro library.

When you've got all you macros lined up, along with their names, put your cursor on the cell containing the first macro name (A1 contains '\F in this example) and press [MENU] **R**ange **N**ame **L**abels **R**ight. Move the cursor down to the last macro name in the list (A5 or whatever) and press [ENTER]. This associates the names you've listed in the A column with the macros in the B column.

1-2-3 screen with macro entered

Save this new worksheet to a file called MACRLIB.WK1 (press [MENU] **F**ile **S**ave **macrlib** [ENTER]). This is your "Macro Library Worksheet."

You can copy individual keystroke macros over from this "macro library worksheet" to any worksheet you are working on. For example, from a new worksheet you would put your cursor in an unused cell and press [MENU] **F**ile **C**ombine **C**opy **N**amed/Specified-Range. Next you would type in to the name of the macro (\F or whatever) and press [ENTER]. Finally, you would select MACRLIB.WK1 (your macro library file) and press [ENTER]. The macro would be copied to the cell.

I'll give some specific examples of Lotus keystroke macros later in the article. All these tips and techniques will work on any PC that runs Lotus 1-2-3.

The 95LX's User Defined Keys

The 95LX's User Keys (system macros) have several advantages over 1-2-3 macros; they don't take up any space in a worksheet, they're easier to launch, and you don't have to search for a blank spot in the worksheet to put the macro. In fact, you can replace many Lotus keystroke macros with User Keys.

Let me give you an example of how to do this and then discuss some of the advantages and limitations of this approach. We'll create a User Key to perform the same currency formatting operation as we did with the '/RFC2~ keystroke macro.

There are two ways to create User Keys. The **Learn Mode** lets you enter the macro on the fly, recording into a user key each keystroke as you make it. The **User Mode** lets you enter and edit user key commands individually, much like writing a line of code in any programming language. For more on the Learn Mode, see page 21-17 of the *HP 95LX User's Guide*. I'll use the User Mode for this example.

Press [<Shift>]-[FILER] [CHAR] to enter the User Key Setup screen. Move your cursor down to an empty User Key slot and press [ENTER] (I'll use F7 in this example). In the Comment field, type in **123 Currency** and press [ENTER]. In the Contents field type in **{MENU}rfc2{ENTER}**. (You can key in **{MENU}** and **{ENTER}** by pressing [F6] first and then pressing [MENU] or [ENTER].) Press [F10] to leave the macro input screen and press [ESC] to return to the main SET UP screen.

Note the difference between the System Macro and the 1-2-3 macro. {MENU} replaces the foreslash (/) and {ENTER} replaces the tilde (~).

Now press [123] to activate Lotus. Activate the User Key by pressing [CHAR]-[F7] (or whatever F-key you've chosen). The "Range to format:" message will appear on the prompt line. Use the arrow keys to highlight a range and press [ENTER]. (If needed, press [ESC] prior to using the arrow keys to move the cursor to a new location and then press [.] (period key) to start highlighting.)

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Transferring Keystroke Macros to User Keys

Here's a process for transferring your favorite Lotus keystroke macros to User Keys.

Open the worksheet that has the keystroke macro you want to transfer. Press [CTRL]-[F2], specify the range that contains the macro and press [ENTER] to copy the macro to the clipboard. The range may be one cell (Z1..Z1) for simple macros, or a large block of cells (Q1..Z10) for complex macros.

Activate MEMO and press [F4] to Paste the macro there. Change all foreslashs (/) to **{MENU}** and replace tildes (~) with **{ENTER}**. In addition if you use the DEL or ESC commands in your macro, you'll have to replace the left and right French brackets ({ and }) with **{LBRACE}** and **{RBRACE}**, respectively.

When you have made the necessary corrections to your macro, press [F9] (Mark), highlight the macro and press [F2] to copy it to the 95LX's clipboard again. Finally, press [<Shift>]-[FILER] **C**har, move the cursor to a blank macro, and press [ENTER] [ENTER] [F4] to paste the macro into the Contents field.

What Does All This Get You?

As mentioned, User Keys are easy to find and use, and don't take up space in a worksheet. However, they do have a drawback – you're limited to ten of them at any one time. A previous Looking Glass column showed how to do this by swapping SETUP.ENV type files (see page 39-40, Mar/Apr 93 issue). However, to use this procedure, you have to leave 1-2-3, swap the SETUP.ENV files and then return to 1-2-3. The macro library file approach described earlier would be better if you have more than 10 Lotus macros you need to use.

Until next time, Happy Porting.

Shareware/Freeware Mentioned in This Article

On the HP Palmtop Paper ON DISK

TLG.ZIP – M/J 93 issue.

Getting Started: Ten Lotus 1-2-3 Macros

To get you started, I've listed 10 Lotus keystroke macros that I've developed over several years. I've also rewritten them as User Keys to give you a better idea of what they look like. The keystroke macros can be found in TLG.WK1, the User Keys in SETUP.ENV. Both of these files are in TLG.ZIP ◘.

A warning! Once you have copied a keystroke macro to a cell, move to another cell before running the macro. If you do not, the macro will overwrite the contents of the cell and you will loose your macro.

Date Stamp Macro

This macro inserts today's date in the current cell in the DD-MMM-YY format (13-Mar-93). Once inserted, the date does not change.

The macro sets the column width to 10 so the date will fit in one column. The macro pauses to allow the user to change the column width if desired (use the arrow keys or enter a number). Finally press [ENTER] to accept the width.

```
1-2-3 Macro: '/RFD1~@NOW{CALC}~/
WCS10~/WCS
System Macro Version:
Comment: 123_Fixed_Date
Contents: {ENTER}{MENU}rfd1{ENTER}@now
{F9}{ENTER}{MENU}wcs10{ENTER}{MENU}wcs
```

Variable date

This puts the function, @NOW, in the current cell and formats the range to DD-MMM-YY. Whenever you call the worksheet up, the current date will appear in that cell, and change from day to day.

The macro sets the column width to 10 so the date will fit in one column. The macro pauses to allow the user to change the column width if desired (use the arrow keys or enter a number). Finally press [ENTER] to accept the width.

```
1-2-3 Macro: '/RFD1~@NOW~/WCS10~/WCS
System Macro Version:
Comment: 123 Variable Date
Contents: {ENTER}{MENU}rfd1{ENTER}@now
{ENTER}{MENU}wcs10{ENTER}{MENU}wcs
```

Time Stamp Macro

Inserts the current time in the cell you are positioned on and formats the time to be displayed as HH:MM AM/PM (e.g. 12:45 PM). Once the time is inserted into the cell, it does not change.

The macro sets the column width to 9 so the time will fit in one column. The macro pauses to allow the user to change the column width if desired (use the arrow keys or enter a number). Finally press [ENTER] to accept the width.

```
1-2-3 Macro: '/RFDT2~@NOW{CALC}~/WCS9
~/WCS
System Macro Version:
Comment: 123 Fixed Time
Contents: {MENU}rfdt2{ENTER}@now{F9}
{ENTER}{MENU}wcs9{ENTER}{MENU}wcs
```

Variable Time Macro

This puts the function, @NOW, in the current cell and formats the range to HH:MM AM/PM. Whenever you call the worksheet up, the current time will appear in that cell, and change from day to day.

The macro sets the column width to 9 so the time will fit in one column. The macro pauses to allow the user to change the column width if desired (use the arrow keys or enter a number). Finally press [ENTER] to accept the width.

```
1-2-3 Macro: '/RFDT2~@NOW~/WCS9~/WCS
System Macro Version:
Comment: 123 Variable Time
Contents: {MENU}rfdt2{ENTER}@now{ENTER}
{MENU}wcs9{ENTER}{MENU}wcs
```

Column width

This macro lets the user set a range of columns to a specified width. The macro will pause to let you adjust the column width by moving the arrow keys or typing in a number.

```
1-2-3 Macro: '/WCCS
System Macro Version:
Comment: 123 Multi-Column Set width
Contents: {MENU}wccs
```

Column Reset

This macro resets a specified range of columns to their original column width. The macro pauses to let the user specify the range of contiguous columns.

```
1-2-3 Macro: '/WCCR
System Macro Version:
Comment: 123 Multi-Column Reset width
Contents: {MENU}wccr
```

Currency 2 range format

This is the macro we played with at the beginning of the article. It sets a range of cells to currency format with 2 digits after the decimal point. The macro will pause and prompt you to select a range of cells to format.

Use the arrow keys to highlight a range, or key one in (e.g. D1..E15). Then press [ENTER].

```
1-2-3 Macro: '/RFC2~
System Macro Version:
Comment: 123 Currency Format
Contents: {MENU}rfc2{ENTER}
```

Column Sum

This macro will add up a column of numbers. Enter a column of numbers and put the cursor on the cell below the last number. Then activate the macro and see the sum pop into place.

```
1-2-3 Macro: '\~{DOWN}@SUM({UP}{END}
{UP}.{END}{DOWN})~
System Macro Version:
Comment: 123 Sum Column
Contents: \~{ENTER}{DOWN}@sum({UP}
{END}{UP}.{END}{DOWN}){ENTER}
```

Zip Codes

Enter a five-digit zip code into a cell and you notice that it's treated like any other number. It's automatically right justified, and if it happens to be a zip code with a leading 0 (e.g. 00256) the zeros are automatically dropped by Lotus.

This macro converts a five-digit zip code into a label (i.e. it's treated like text instead of numbers). It even replaces leading zeroes.

```
1-2-3 Macro: {EDIT}{HOME}@RIGHT
(@STRING({END}+100000,0),5),{CALC}
{HOME}'~
System Macro Version:
Comment: 123 Convert ZIPCode
Contents: {EDIT}{HOME}@right(@string
({END}+100000,0),5){F9}{HOME}'{ENTER}
```

Goto named range

As described earlier, 1-2-3 lets you assign a special name to a range of cells (press [MENU] **R**ange **N**ame **C**reate). This macro presents a list of existing range names in the form of a "pick-list." To go to the beginning of a named range, move the cursor to the desired range name and press [ENTER]. If there are no named ranges, the macro does nothing.

```
1-2-3 Macro: {GOTO}{NAME}{NAME}
System Macro Version:
Comment: 123 Goto Named Range
Contents: {F5}{F3}{F3}
```

Programming Tools for the HP 95LX

Ed summarizes the programming tools available for the 95LX, including C languages, Assemblers, BASIC, and Pascal. He also looks at more specialized tools relating to 95LX system compliancy, graphics, the keyboard, clipboard, and four-pin serial port.

By Ed Keefe

In the last issue of *The HP Palmtop Paper*, we described Craig Finseth's collection of programs for the HP 95LX. Freyja, Memutil, and the Thor file conversion utilities are all useful in and of themselves. But what makes Craig's package valuable to programmers is the wealth of C source code and tutorials it includes. (See page 25, Mar/Apr 93 issue.)

Until the release of this package, if you wanted to learn the secrets of System-Manager Compliant (SMC) programming, you either registered with HP as an Independent Software Vendor (ISV), or you networked with other SMC programmers on CompuServe and tried to pick up their discoveries. During the past two years, HP and other people on CompuServe have offered sample code and detailed explanations of the inner workings of the 95LX. This has helped the rest of us learn the nuances of 95LX programming.

This article summarizes some of the best tools and other resources available to 95LX programmers. If you combine the information in these files with Craig Finseth's collection, you should have a very complete textbook on programming the 95LX. Hopefully, it will get you looking in the right direction.

The files mentioned in this article are freeware or shareware. In future articles we'll look at commercial programming aides. If you're aware of any other resources, please let us know.

As you'll see, most of the code samples are written in C. Undoubtedly this is because all of the 95LX built-in applications were written in C. Programs have also been implemented in Assembler, Pascal, BASIC, Forth, and AWK. (A future article will discuss the pros and cons of each of these languages as they relate to the 95LX.) In the section titled "Support for other Languages" we've included sample code or resources that support these other languages.

Writing System Compliant Programs in C

With the initial release of HP's Independent Software Vendor (ISV) documents, it became apparent that the preferred language for writing System Manager Compliant programs was Microsoft C. The final step in making a program System-Manager Compliant involved converting an .EXE file to an .EXM file (one that could be loaded and run by the SYSMGR program). The conversion program supplied by HP worked only with programs written in Microsoft C. Those who preferred Borland C were temporarily out of luck.

In addition, information was scarce on graphics, communications, scan codes for the keys, and the unique serial port.

Fortunately, help was on the way in the form of text files and utilities that began appearing on CompuServe in late 1991 (listed below).

Unless otherwise indicated, these files are in PRGTOOL1.ZIP & PRGTOOL2.zip on the May/Jun issue of *The HP Palmtop Paper ON DISK.*

Programming Tools and Tips

Files on PTP ON DISK

Unless otherwise indicated, each of these files can be found on the May/June 1993 issue of *The HP Palmtop Paper ON DISK*, or in 95LX programmers section of the HP Hand forum of CompuServe (Lib 15). Issues of *The HP Palmtop Paper ON DISK* can be obtained individually, or as a subscription from Thaddeus Computing, Phone: **800-373-6114** or **515-472-6330**; Fax: **515-472-1879**).

System Compliant Examples

95SMT.ZIP
Bytes: 154,565
Source files and documentation taken from the HP 95LX ISV manual. The files deal with System-Manager Programming. They may be freely distributed, but are copyrighted by HP and Lotus. If you're registered as an ISV, you already have these files in printed form. *HP offers these files as is. They will not offer any support on them unless you are in their ISV program.*

CLP.C
Bytes: 5,001
Sample code providing a working set of functions that will let you implement the clipboard, cut and paste functions in SysMgr. This file will save you headaches.

E2MTC.ZIP
Bytes: 11,012
A Borland C version of the program that

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Ed Keefe is an author, programmer, computer science instructor, and long-time contributor to support publications for HP computers. He is the president of the FastAid Company, 314 S.W. Logan, Ankeny, IA 50021. Ed's CompuServe ID# is [75300,3667].

is needed to convert .EXE files to .EXM files.

E2M.ZIP
Bytes: 8,801
An update to the conversion program, (version 4.3) fixing a bug that was found in the original program.

EDIT.C
Bytes: 10,112
Shows how to use the built-in SysMgr editing functions. It takes a little of the mystery out of the ISV documents.

TC2EXM.95
Bytes: 5,573
A small text file (5K bytes) describing how to write SMC programs using Borland's C compilers.

C Programming Tools for Specific Tasks

At the beginning of 1992, several more tools and code samples appeared on CompuServe, providing work-arounds for the serial port bug and giving programmers access to the built-in graphics functions.

Graphics

GRAFIX.95
Bytes: 29,618
A 30K byte text file from Everett Kaser of HP, Corvallis. It describes everything you wanted to know about the graphics capabilities of the 95LX. It includes C and assembler code to get at the built-in graphic functions. It's "must-have" file for graphics programmers.

95CGL.ZIP
Bytes: 40,926
Graphics source code from Jerry Wassinger, who did some very nice work with the graphics screen of the 95LX. Although he discontinued his work on the 95LX, the file is a valuable resource.

Communications

95TRM1.ZIP
Bytes: 48,394
Contains more material from the ISV manual. In particular, it addresses the issue of writing programs that use the serial port. *Once again, HP offered this file as-is and will NOT support it, unless you're registered in their ISV program.*

COMFIX.95
Bytes: 3,889
A text file that deals with the 95LX serial port and how to work around it.

95SER.C
Bytes: 3,566
A small text file of Turbo C code that shows six ways to do polled serial I/O on the 95LX.

IR.95
Bytes: 12,843
Text file giving you information on how the 95LX IR port works and how to program it.

Keyboard Issues

The keyboard on the 95LX is, in reality, an enhanced keyboard. This stumped a lot of programmers at first. Several programmers have shared their findings with others.

PROHLP.ZIP
Bytes: 11,775
A program along with the Borland C source code that displays the scan codes of all the keys on the 95LX, even the blue keys. The program also presents a table of the ASCII characters in the 95LX and does a fair job of number-base conversions.

LXKEYS.ZIP
Bytes: 1,148
A 96-byte program that displays just the scan codes for all the keys.

KEYS.95
Bytes: 10,645
A text file from ISV documentation with a list of all the scan codes.

Personal C Compiler Support

PCC is a popular shareware alternative to Microsoft C and Borland C. Registered users receive a usable debugger, and some other utilities.

Several Programmers have been able to get this to work on the 95LX. They've shared their experience in the following files.

■ CIS, ON DISK (J/F 92)

PCC-H.ZIP
Bytes: 3,830
A collection of C language header files for PCC, the Personal C Compiler. The header files contain definitions for PCIO modules along with a modified version of STDIO.H for the 95LX.

STRING.ZIP
Bytes: 4,970
Useful for PCC users, even if they're not 95LX programmers. The file contains most of the string functions that were missing from the shareware version of PCC.

DELIM.ZIP
Bytes: 5,934
Contains a sample PCC-C program, source code only, that parses comma-delimited files. This is a "must-have" if you're thinking of writing conversion programs for the HP 95LX's applications.

IS95LX.ZIP
Bytes: 1,747
A PCC-C program that sets the DOS Error Level. It lets your batch file know whether a program is running on the 95LX or a standard desktop machine.

Support for Other Languages

Eventually, 95LX programs were implemented in other languages. As mentioned, we'll discuss these languages in more depth in future issues.

Assembler

Eventually, most programmers bite the bullet and start programming in assembler. Here is just one "must-have" file from a master at bit-twiddling.

95ASM.ZIP
Bytes: 6,827
Text file for those who want a head-start in writing an assembler, System-Manager Compliant programs. It's from Everett Kaser of HP Corvallis, and it's the next best thing to having Everett write your program for you.

UTIL Forth

Some programmers prefer the Forth Language for quick prototyping and design of programs. UTIL Forth, from Essex Marketing is one of the best implementations of Forth around. It was designed to work in a palmtop environment and is very well supported by Essex. Over the past couple of years, Chris Smith has contributed lots of sample code and has even published a Forth NewsLetter. All of the exemplary Forth code that I've seen is included in the commercial package. (See page 31, Jan/Feb 92).

GRAPH.U
Bytes: 8,320
UTIL Forth Graphics words for the 95LX to load and save a graphics screen. Includes programming guidelines to create "clean" screens in the graphics mode.

PYG.ZIP
Bytes: 63,424
A small Forth programming language compiler.
■ CIS, ON DISK (J/F 92)

TSTCOM.U
Bytes: 5,363
UTIL Forth serial communication words that use SYSMGR services on the 95LX. Test code is included for the 95LX to sever as dumb terminal for a Forth microprocessor single board computer.

UDFORT.ZIP
Bytes: 126,945
A small Forth programming language compiler.
■ CIS, ON DISK (J/F 92)

UNEWS4.95
Bytes: 19,868
Issue #4 of the Forth Corner Newsletter includes Forth words to handle SysMgr graphics on the 95LX, a updateof the Metacompiler for double numbers, bounds checking with arrays, and more.

UTIL.ANN
Bytes: 6,568
An announcement and description of UTIL Forth, a System Manager compliant Forth programming system for the 95LX.

Basic

Several people have successfully used BASIC and QuickBASIC to write 95LX programs. If this is your preferred language, then the following will give you some valuable tools.

SS95.ZIP
Bytes: 26,867
Add-in library for QuickBASIC that will let you do graphics programming on the 95LX. The file contains demo program, source code. The library is shareware.

QBCOMF.95
Bytes: 2,764
A text file containing QuickBASIC routines that will let you use the 95LX's serial port.

Swift!BASIC

It is the only language that will let you write SMC programs out of the box. It is the preferred version BASIC for this small machine. Swift!BASIC is designed exclusively for the HP 95LX. It also handles the 95-LX's graphics and sound functions. Here are some files that relate to this fine commercial product. (See review, page 32, Jul/Aug 92 issue.)

FILEMN.ZIP
Bytes: 1,556
Example of Swift! Basic allowing file selection using SysMgr file menu system calls.

S!B_DE.LZH
Bytes: 25,049
EXMs written in Swift!Basic. Includes - ASCII source codes.

SBASIC.ANN
Bytes: 2,899
An announcement and description of Swift!Basic, an implementation of BASIC for the HP 95LX Palmtop Computer that generates system-compliant programs.

Pascal

Turbo Pascal runs on the 95LX. Version 3.02 is preferred for its small size (about 40K bytes compressed). If you want Object Oriented Programming (OOP), you will need to use Borland Pascal 5.0 or later.

TP95.ZIP
Bytes: 6,937
Text file telling how to get Turbo Pascal 3.02A to run on the HP 95LX. It includes a sample Pascal program of Conway's Game of Life which may be loaded into the 95LX and run using the Turbo Pascal compiler. The graphics part of TP 3.02 does not work on the 95LX.

TP5GRF.ZIP
Bytes: 2,793
Contains the source code for a Turbo Pascal unit to interface to the HP 95LX graphics routines.

HPGRAP.ZIP
Bytes: 8,192
More graphics interface source code, but the coding is closer to that used in the ISV manual. Written for Turbo Pascal versions 4 and 5, the source code may be recompiled to work with versions 6 and 7.

AWK

Originally a UNIX pattern-matching utility, AWK grew into a powerful programming language eventually ported to the PC environment.

GCAWK1.ZIP
Bytes: 7,129
A collection of useful AWK programs for the HP 95LX, including code for an Editor, a couple of different ways to do MORE, a 40-column formatter (FMT .AWK), a Hex/-Decimal/Octal calculator, and file management utilities DU and WC.

Miscellaneous Files

Several files have come to our attention that do not fit in any of the above categories.

FIXUP.ZIP
Bytes: 10,867
This file gives all the details of the FIXUP problem in the 95LX, along with suggested work-arounds (see page 5, Jan/Feb 93 issue). Also included is a utility that shows if your program contains any fixups.

FORMAT.PBK
Bytes: 2,503
▪ CIS, ON DISK (M/A 93)
FORMAT.ABK
Bytes: 12,176
These two files contain descriptions of the file formats for the Phone Book and Appointment data files.

SERVER.ZIP
Bytes: 30,971
Text file containing tips on how to access the 95LX's undocumented $SERVER command. $SERVER is supposed to do a binary dump of the C drive over to a disk.

Order Information

AWK 1.4b — n/a
AWK 2.03 - $249
Powerful pattern matching utility.
CONTACT: *Thompson Automation, 5616 SW Jefferson, Portland OR 97221-2597, USA; Phone: 800-944-0139 503-224-1639 503-224-3230.*

Swift!BASIC — $159.95
BASIC programming language designed for the HP 95LX.
USA CONTACT: *EduCALC, 27953 Cabot Road, Laguna Niguel, CA 92677, USA; Phone: 800-677-7001 or 714-582-2637; Fax: 714-582-1445.*

TurboPascal 3.02A — $90
The following individual has been licensed to distribute this older version of TP that works well with the 95LX.
CONTACT: *Joe Wright, 711 Chatsworth Place, San Jose, CA 95128, USA.*

UTIL Forth — $70
Version of Forth designed for the 95LX.
CONTACT: *Essex Marketing Services Inc., attn: Chris Smith, 272 Old Farms Road, Simsbury, CT 06070, USA; Phone: 203-651-8284; Fax: 203-651-7926.*

Sources for Commercial Programming Software

The Programmer's Shop, 90 Industrial Park Rd., Hingham, MA 02043, USA; Phone: (617) 740-2017 or
Programmer's Paradise, P.O.Box 560, Farmingdale, NY 11735, USA; Phone: 800-445-7899

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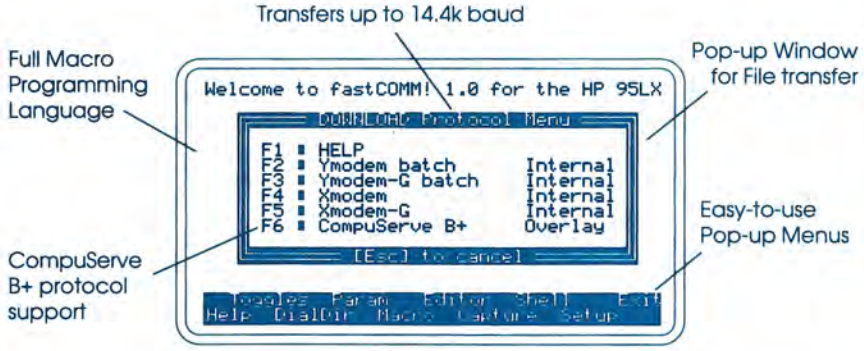

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Shareware/Freeware Mentioned in This Article

On the HP Palmtop Paper ON DISK

*CIS **SHR Freyja M/A 93 issue
(Memutil & Thor archived in Freyja)
*CIS **SHR PCC J/F 92 issue
*CIS **SHR PRGTOOL1.ZIP M/J 92 issue
*CIS **SHR PRGTOOL2.ZIP M/J 92 issue
(Contains other freeware/shareware software mentioned in this issue.)

**CIS — Also available in the HP Handhelds forum of CompuServe.*

***SHR — SHAREWARE is software distributed free of charge for evaluation purposes only. If you decide to use it, you must pay the author the shareware fee. This goes for any shareware found on The HP Palmtop Paper ON DISK or CompuServe.*

*AOL — many of these files may be found on American Online in the Palmtop Library (keyword **Palmtop**).*

What is Your 95LX IQ?

Do you make the grade? Have you got the right stuff? Now's your chance to find out — and have fun in the process.

By Peder Sweeney

Harken back to your SAT (Scholastic Aptitude Test) or GRE (Graduate Record Exam). A few more points and you would have gotten into that prestigious school. Well, here's your chance to do it right! Take the PAT (Palmtop Aptitude Test).

I wrote this 95LX I.Q. test for a class we have at Thaddeus Computing. Everyone had fun with it, so we decided to inflict it on our subscribers.

There are one or more correct answers per question. Put all your books under your desk and use a #2 pencil only. No talking will be allowed during the test.

1. What is the operating system of the 95LX?
   a. Lotus 2.0
   b. System Manager
   c. OS/2
   d. DOS
2. Which are features of System Manager?
   a. File organization and transfer
   b. Communications between the 95 and other computers
   c. Dices and slices, even makes Julienne fries
   d. Multiple applications open at once
3. In which of the following applications could you figure amortization?
   a. Set-up
   b. HP Calc
   c. Lotus
   d. Filer
4. Which of the following can be used in the 95LX's card slot?
   a. RAM card
   b. ROM card
   c. Fax/Modem card
   d. Greeting card
5. How many batteries are in a 95LX without a card in the PCMCIA slot?
   a. One
   b. Two
   c. Three
   d. Four
6. If confused and needing help, a user could:

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Peder Sweeney is the Marketing Director at Thaddeus Computing, publisher of The HP Palmtop Paper. He lives in Fairfield Iowa with his wife Kelly. Peder is proud of the many things he's discovered not to do with the 95LX (i.e. set the time-out to half a second when there's no AC adapter for miles).

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TCI

a. Read the Function key info along the bottom of the screen
b. Press [F1] for help
c. Press menu for options
d. Read *The HP Palmtop Paper*

7. Connectivity could involve which of the following?
a. The ability of one computer to "talk" to another
b. The topcard
c. The serial port
d. The infrared port

8. In which application(s) could you create a Recipes database?
a. 1-2-3
b. Filer
c. Phone
d. Comm

9. What are the results of removing all batteries?
a. No result if AC adapter plugged in
b. Lose all info except ROM
c. OK if computer is off
d. No power

10. In what application would you adjust the volume?
a. Filer
b. Comm
c. Set-Up
d. Appt

11. What can the IR port do?
a. Control a home entertainment system
b. Share data via another IR port
c. Open a garage door
d. Cause a brain tumor

12. In **C:_DAT\BIZ.PBK**, which is the sub-directory?
a. C:\
b. _DAT
c. BIZ
d. .PBK

13. In question 12, what does the .PBK mean?
a. File identifier
b. A Phone Book file
c. Phone backup utility
d. Phi Beta Kappa

14. In question 12, which is the root directory?
a. C:\
b. _DAT
c. BIZ
d. .PBK

15. Is **G:\BABY\NEEDS\A\NEW\PAIR\O\SHOES.!!!** a legal (workable) file name in the 95LX:
a. Yes
b. No

Your 95LX I.Q.

The answers are listed at the end of this article. Determine your Palmtop Percentile Ranking (PPR) by adding up your total number of INCORRECT answers (by commission or omission), multiplying that number by 1.72 and subtracting it from 100. The Solver equation would look like this: **100-(#Incorrect*1.72)=%Correct.**

Compare your score to the ranking list below, and bask in the glory of your achievement:

90-100 A – 95LX genius
80-89 B – 95LX sub-genius
70-79 C – You'll have to do better than this if you want to get into a prestigious school.
60-69 D – Re-read the back issues of *The HP Palmtop Paper* and take the test again.

Answers:

1. b., d. (System Manager could be considered an operating system, but it's really a user interface.)
2. a., b., d.
3. b., c.
4. a., b., c. (PalmModem makes a fax/modem card that works in the 95LX.)
5. c. (One coin battery and two AA's)
6. a., b., c., d.
7. a., c., d.
8. a., c.
9. a., b., d.
10. c.
11. a., b.
12. b.
13. a., b.
14. a.
15. a. (Sparcom's Drive95 and ACE Technologies DoubleCard 2.0 software create G drives when installed. There may be other ways.

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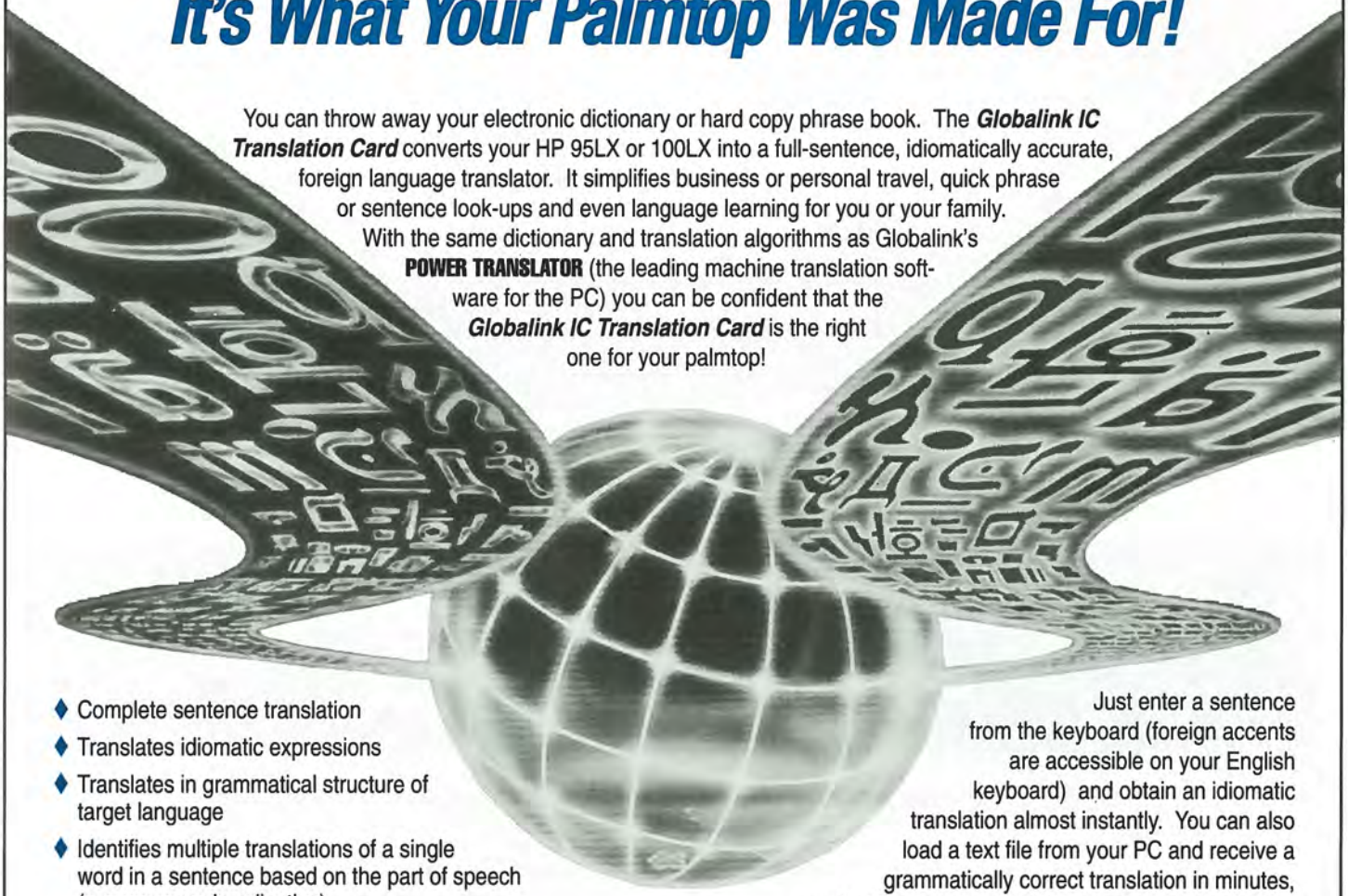

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[Continued from page 5.]

[For viewing only, you can use the built in FILER. Simply put the cursor on the file name and press [ENTER]. You will be able to see the file and scroll through it, but there are no editing capabilities.

WordPerfect 4.2 as described on page 44 of the Nov/Dec 92 issue, may be another solution.

The new 100LX file size is limited only by the available memory – Robert Roney.]

Sheriff Says, "Get that Lotto Program Running..."

I am having trouble making Ed Keefe's Lotto program run (page 37, Mar/Apr 93 issue). I have entered and re-entered the program with no luck. The sheriff is the owner of the 95LX and is pressing me to get this program running.

Is the program printed correctly in the magazine? If not please fax me correct version.

Also, the Louisiana Lottery uses six numbers between 1 and 44, what modifications are needed to make this program select 6 numbers instead of 5.

Mark Percle
St Marinville, LA 70582

[The program was printed correctly last issue. I've received a couple of letters from Europe in response to the Lotto picker. The original Solver equation and user keys are found in UFK.TXT. The request is for a lotto picker with 6 numbers: various ranges. Here's a typical answer:

The following equation _should_ come closer to getting six numbers between 1 and 49:

```
{Lottoliotto=
 1E1*(IP(MOD(RAN#*100,48)+1))+
 1E2*(IP(MOD(RAN#*100,48)+1))+
 1E4*(IP(MOD(RAN#*100,48)+1))+
 1E6*(IP(MOD(RAN#*100,48)+1))+
 1E8*(IP(MOD(RAN#*100,48)+1))+
 1E10*(IP(MOD(RAN#*100,38)+10))
 }
```

The following System Macro works with English punctuation:

```
{CALC}{MENU}s{F7}lotto{ENTER}
{ESC}{F9}{F2}{F2}{Ctrl-F2}{MENU}q
{MEMO}{Ctrl-END}{ENTER}{F4}
{HOME}{F7}.{ENTER}{F9}{END}{F3}
{LEFT}{LEFT}{LEFT}{BACKSP}
{LEFT}{LEFT}{LEFT}{BACKSP}
{LEFT}{LEFT}{LEFT}{BACKSP}
{LEFT}{LEFT}{LEFT}{BACKSP}
{HOME}Your lotto picks are
{RIGHT}{RIGHT} {RIGHT}
{RIGHT} {RIGHT}{RIGHT} {RIGHT}
{RIGHT} {RIGHT}{RIGHT} {RIGHT}
{RIGHT}{RIGHT}{ENTER}
```

*Line 4, the period after **{F7}** may need to be changed to comma (,) for French punctuation. Also the last series of commands are five pairs of {RIGHT}-{RIGHT}, with a space between each pair, followed by three {RIGHT}s and ending with an {ENTER}.*

Best of luck – Ed Keefe.]

Shareware/Freeware Mentioned

On the HP Palmtop Paper ON DISK

*CIS**SHR PTPDISKS.PBK – M/J 93
*CIS**SHR SOKOBAN.ZIP – N/D 92
*CIS**SHR DIVDISK – Fall 91
HPTRIX.ZIP – J/F 92
PKSL95.EXE in DIVDISK
UFK.ZIP – M/A 93

On the 92 Subscribers Disk

ALBERT.PCX
RE.EXE

**CIS – Also available in the HP Handhelds forum of CompuServe.*

***SHR – SHAREWARE is software distributed free of charge for evaluation purposes only.*

*AOL -many of these files may be found on American Online in the Palmtop Library (keyword **Palmtop**).*

INTERNET E-MAIL SERVICE FOR THE HP 95LX

- Nationwide dialup access for $19 per month - ***flat rate.***
- **FREE** System Manager compliant software included.
- Send and receive electronic mail to subscribers of Internet, CompuServe®, AT&T Mail™, MCIMail™, and all other connected networks in the global messaging matrix.
- Two-way wireless access is available for $69 per month - ***flat rate*** - through RAM Mobile Data if you sign up by June 30, 1993.
- 1200, 2400 and 9600 bps dialup access is available.
- Canadian, European and Pacific Rim dialup access is available at additional cost.
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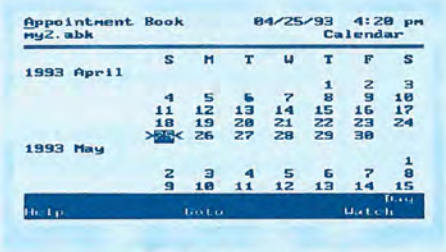
••• BASIC TIPS •••

Appt

USE CALENDAR TO MOVE AROUND IN APPOINTMENT

When you are in Appointment Book's Daily display, you can press **PG UP** (<Shift>-<UpArrow>) and **PG DN** (<Shift>-<DownArrow>) to move to the next or previous day. If you have to go many days forwards or backwards, try this technique. Press ESC to enter the Calendar display.



Appts Calendar View

Use the Arrow Keys to position the cursor on the day you want. to move to the day you want and press ENTER to switch back to the Daily display.

Filer

CREATING A DIRECTORY

The DOS operating system on the 95LX lets you create directories on your C drive. Like file folders in a file cabinet, these directories help you organize your hard disk by letting you store like files in one separate location. (One directory, _DAT, comes with the 95LX and is the location where most of the built-in applications automatically store their data.)

For instance, lets say your work involves a number of special projects. You can create a directory on your C drive to store all the files relating to your special projects. Enter FILER and MENU **D**irectory, **C**reate. Then type in the name you want to give your directory (e.g. **C:\PROJECTS**, where C:\ stands for the C drive and PROJECTS is the directory name). You can create a directory on the RAM card in your memory slot by entering the A drive name and filename (i.e. **A:\PROJECTS**).

After you have created the directory you can save files to it or move all your special project files to that directory. For instance, from MEMO you would save a file by pressing MENU **F**ile, **S**ave then type in the file location and filename (e.g. **C:\PROJECTS\FILENAME**).

DELETING A DIRECTORY

When you want to remove the directory, you must delete all files from it. Then position the cursor on the directory, press F3 (Delete) and answer **Y**es. If you get the message, "Cannot delete directory when DIRS is disabled Press ESC to continue," you must do the following. Press (ESC) to go back to FILER. Press MENU **O**ptions **D**irs and **Y**es at the "Use subdirectories?" question. Go back to FILER and delete the directory.

To protect yourself from accidentally deleting other directories, go back into FILER press MENU MENU, Options, Dirs, and select No at the "Use subdirectories?" question. This will protect you from accidently erasing a directory full of information.

HP Calc

USE HP CALC FOR QUICK CALCULATIONS LIKE A REGULAR HANDHELD CALCULATOR

As powerful as HP CALC is, it's really just as easy to use for the simple calculations you do with inexpensive handheld calculators. If you want to add 5 and 2, go into HP CALC and make sure you are in the "Calculator Arithmetic" screen. Press **5 + 2 =** and **7** appears at the bottom right of the screen. If you want to divide 66 by 3, press **66 / 3 =** and **22** appears.

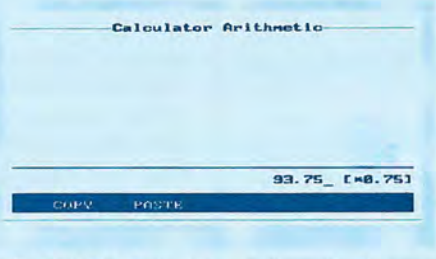
The memory functions (MC, MR, M-, and M+) that you typically find on the right side of a calculators keypad are activated by the 95LX function keys F7, F8, F9, and F10 respectively. F7 clears the memory, F8 recalls the number in memory, F9 adds the current number to whatever is in memory, and F10 subtracts the current number from whatever is in memory. (For more on memory functions, see "Using Registers" beginning on page 23-12 of *HP 95LX User's Guide*.)

USE HP CALC "AUTOMATIC CONSTANT" FEATURE TO FIGURE DISCOUNTS

The 95LX is very helpful for those "store wide 25% off" sales. You can use the automatic constant feature in HP CALC to figure out the discounted price of an item.

Let's say you go into a store with a 25% off sale. What that means is that you will pay 75% of the original price (original price * .75 = discounted price). Use HP CALC to figure out the price of the first item (say its list price is 125.00).

Go into HP CALC, key in **125.00** and press ESC * * (the times key twice). Then enter **.75** and press =. The result, **93.75**, appears at the bottom right of the screen along with **[*0.75]**.



HP CALC's Calculator Arithmetic Screen

What has happened is that when you pressed * the second time, you told the 95LX to use the next number as the automatic constant.

The 95LX automatically multiplies future entries by this number. For example, to calculate the discounted price of the next 25% off item, key in the regular price and press =.

You can create automatic constants for +, -, *, /, or ^ (raising a number to a power). For more on using the automatic constant in calculations, see page 23-6 of *HP 95LX User's Guide*.

Memo

SAVE TIME WRITING MEMOS OR LETTERS: CREATE A TEMPLATE

If you find yourself entering the same information time and again when you write memos or letters, you're wasting time. It's easy to create a template or setup a standard form to use in MEMO. For example you could set up a thank you note form. Start MEMO and type in the following:

```
From the desk of John Smith,
Director of Marketing:
To:
Thank you for ...
Sincerely,
John Smith
```

Press MENU **F**ile **S**ave and type in a filename such as **THANKU.TXT**.

The next time you want to send a thank you note you can start MEMO, press MENU **F**ile **O**pen, select **THANKU.TXT** and press ENTER. Then press MENU **F**ile **S**ave and give the file a new name (i.e. **ROGER.TXT**) and press ENTER. Then fill out your thank you note and save it again. You're ready to print or transfer the file to your desktop for printing.

Phone

CUT AND PASTE ADDRESS INTO MEMO

Instead of typing the name and address into the above template (or any MEMO document), you can cut and paste them in from your Phone Book. Open PHONE and move the cursor to the name you want. Press F2 (Copy), go back to MEMO and move the cursor to the "To:" line and press F4 (Paste). The name, number and address will appear in your memo and you can edit or change it to complete the note.

SET Set Up

STOPWATCH EASY TO USE

Whether your timing the length of a presentation, or how long it took you to run that two kilometer race, you might try the 95LX's Stopwatch function – it's really pretty easy to use.

From the APPT main screen press F9 (Watch) and F4 (Reset) to clear the clock. Press F6 to start the timer and F6 again to stop it. You will see the time elapsed displayed to the 100th of a second.

You could also use Stopwatch to time phone conversations, sales presentation, or anything that you can rehearse and that needs to fit into a specified time slot.

▲▲▲ QUICK TIPS ▲▲▲

1-2-3 Lotus

1-2-3 INPUTS AND OUTPUTS IN DATABASE FORMAT

There is an add-in over on the lotus forum (go lotus) called 123DLM. It does a slick job of outputting comma delimited files, and reading them. Since most database programs import and export data in comma delimited format, this makes it easier to exchange data between an HP Palmtop and a desktop PC. This add-in works fine for me on the 95LX. The zipped file size is 6,621, but the actual add-in takes about 10K of disk space. The only other alternative is to create a bunch of string formulas.

Ron Vieceli
CompuServe ID: [73310,3663]

PRESS < TO BRING UP MENU IN LOTUS

The less than symbol (<) is a valid way to bring up the 1-2-3 menu. 95Buddy may interfere with this, if you unload BUDDY and press [<], you'll get the Lotus menu.

While your are entering a value into a cell, [<], [MENU], or [/] will not bring up the menu.

Ted Dickens (HP Forum Sysop)
CompuServe ID: [76701,272]

BUILT-IN WORKSHEET GRAPH

_STAT.WK1 is one of the built-in Lotus worksheets found on the English language version of the 95LX. (Also archived in _HPWK1.ZIP) It can display a graph of the data with a least squares regression line plotted into it. This easy graph is not easy to do from scratch. It is invoked from the worksheet by pressing [ALT]-P.

Unfortunately, the graph disappears if you press any key. I found that a simple edit of the Lotus [ALT]-P macro keeps the graph from disappearing (allowing you to edit, save, or print it).

The macro is located in cell IB7045 of _STAT.WK1. Change the macro by deleting the following 24 characters from the macro:

{R 2}/re..{END}{D}~/grgq

This sequence of characters ends 25 characters from the right end of the macro.

Since _STAT.WK1 is written in ROM, you cannot save this change to it. You may, however, save this new version of _STAT.WK1 to the C drive.

Paul Swadener
Eugene, OR USA

Appt

FIND NEXT/PREVIOUS APPOINTMENT

You can use the following trick to quickly go to the next appointment in APPT. Every appointment usually has two or more words in it with a blank space in between the words (e.g. "Call Bill re: Lunch"). For some reason, when you press [F7] [F7], the 95LX takes you to the next blank space (between words in the appointment). If you enter a single word appointment (i.e. "Exercise ") you should insert a blank space after the word so that the search still works. You can search backwards to the previous appointment by pressing [F7] [F5].

This method does not work when you search over long periods of time. We tested the procedure on a 512K and 1MB 95LX and found that if the period of time between appointments was greater that two years, the search would not work.

Jim Gurney
Lotus Development Corp
Rich Hall
Editor, The HP Palmtop Paper

Batteries

CHANGING A RAM CARD BATTERY

HP, ACE, and some (but not all) other RAM cards allow you to change the card battery without removing the card from the card slot. Make sure that your RAM card is being powered while you make the battery change or you may lose all your data.

When the RAM card is in the card slot and the 95LX is switched ON, the card is powered from the 95LX's main cells or AC adapter (if connected). Connecting the 95LX to the AC adapter disables the auto-shutoff feature and gives you all the time you need to change the battery.

If you don't have access to AC power when you need to change the battery, you have three minutes before the 95LX powers down and cuts the power to your card. You can press a key every minute or so to keep the 95LX from powering down. You can also turn the 95LX on and disable timeout by using SWITCH!, 95Buddy, or TIMEOUT.EXE.

Slide the lock lever at the end of the card to the unlock position and remove the little battery tray. Pop the battery out and replace it with the proper back up battery (a 3-volt CR2025 coin cell for HP cards). Make sure the positive (+) side of the battery is sitting up in the tray. For more on changing card batteries, see page 1-10 of the *HP 95LX User's Guide*.

Dave Snellard
CompuServe ID: [100064,1525]

CATEGORIES INSTEAD OF PRIORITIES IN TODO LIST

I have a number of standing categories in my Todo list. One of these, UOME (You Owe Me), is for people who have agreed to get back to me on something, or do something for me. Let's say I chose to use 1st Priority for this standing category. The first 1st priority entry is the category name in caps (i.e. UOME). I place all You Owe Me's in the Todo list as 1st priorities. I indent them a couple of spaces so the category name stands out.

Standing Categories in a Todo List

I use the F6 feature on 95Buddy 2.3 to link a note (UOME.TXT) to the Todo list for all the tasks due. Each item in UOME.TXT is date stamped as to when it was agreed to and when it is due. I have additional categories, all in 1st priority. The category headings are always in CAPS and never indented. Entries within each category are always indented. Single items due well in the future are entered in on the dates they are due, or a few days earlier if they need prior review.

I use the other priorities for additional categories. The 2nd priority, I list ongoing projects related to work (e.g. HARDWARE UPGRADES, etc.). 3rd priority gets home related projects.

Greg Alter
CompuServe ID: [70412,2041]

Connectivity

AUTOMATED MACINTOSH BACKUP

I wrote MACBAK 1.01, a MAC Hypercard 2.x stack that uses the 95LX's built-in COMM application to automatically copy any and all files from your HP to the Mac.

This Hypercard program features an exclusion list, TTY emulation, backup statistics, single file send and receive and gives color icons to the HP files when they get to your Mac. You can use the exclusion list to exclude the ROM files (like: _CFLOW.WK1, COMMAND.COM, etc.) from being backed up.

A small (5K) DOS companion program (DIRLIS.EXE) creates a directory listing of all files on all volumes (A: and C:) on your 95LX. This will also be of interest to DOS users even if you don't use the backup stack.

Although it is a Hypercard stack, it is not much slower than running the Connectivity Pack software under SoftPC on the Mac.

R. David Mitchell
CompuServe ID: [76067,1121]

ACOUSTIC COUPLER A LOW COST ALTERNATIVE TO WIRELESS COMPUTING

An acoustic coupler costs around $150. A pay phone with an acoustic coupler is an economical way to send and receive E-Mail, as opposed to more expensive wireless services.

Most people I have heard from report that 300 bps is the fastest reliable transmission speed they can get out of a acoustic coupler. Still, a reliable, regular 300 bps is much better than nothing.

Robert Williams
CompuServe ID: [76167,2773]

C:\ DOS

BACKUP TRICK

I described a file backup solution on page 26 of the Jul/Aug 92 issue. It involved using ZIP and a batch file named BKUP.BAT. Here's a tip that can be applied to various backup strategies and save some disk space.

The first time that you run BKUP.BAT, it backs up every file in every directory. Some of those files, like COMMAND.COM, TF.COM, and all the WK1 worksheets are in ROM and don't need to be backed up. To save space, *go to the directory on your BACKUP MEDIUM* where those files are located, and issue the following DOS command(s) (press ENTER after each command):

```
rem > command.com
rem > chkdsk.Exe
rem > tf.com
etc.
```

(Continue listing in the "rem > filename" format all files built into the 95LX C drive.)

These commands create empty files with the filenames listed.

Since these files were created after the original files with the same name were created, they will have more recent dates. BKUP.BAT will see this, and not backup the original files. These empty files you've created have 0 bytes, so you'll save about 50K of disk space.

Ed Keefe
CompuServe ID: [75300,3667]

HP Calc

CALCULATE IN HP CALC'S LIST MODE

HP Calc's List mode lets you keep a running list of numbers and add them up (e.g. a shopping list, etc.). From HP Calc, press MENU List, then key in a number. Every time you press ENTER, the cursor moves down one line. The list total appears at the bottom of the screen.

But sometimes you may want to do a calculation first and put the result into the list. You could switch to Arith, do the calculation, but it's easier to stay in List mode and perform the calculation. For example, suppose you wanted to multiply 8 times 12 and place the product in the list. Press **8 * 12 =** ENTER and 96 is entered into the list. The above format assumes that you are using Algebraic notation in your calculations. If you are using Reverse Polish Notation (RPN appears at the bottom left of your screen), you would press **8 = 12 *** ENTER.

Ted Dickens (HP Forums Sysop)
CompuServe ID: [76701,272]

Memo

FIND DOESN'T WORK WITH SPECIAL CHARACTERS

The Find (F7) function in MEMO doesn't work right with special characters. Press ALT-1 to put a ☺ (open happy face) in your 95LX MEMO document and then try go to it with the Find function. Find takes you to the first special character it finds (usually the next ◂ – the End-of-Line marker).

Jim Gurney
Lotus Development Corp.
Atlanta GA, USA

SET Set Up

WHERE TO PUT AUTOEXEC.BAT & CONFIG.SYS

If you have a RAM card I recommend keeping AUTOEXEC.BAT and/or CONFIG.SYS in A:\. If something goes wrong, and you can't boot from the A drive, you can just pull the card and reboot with a plain configuration.

Ted Dickens (HP Forum Sysop)
CompuServe ID: [76701,272]

GETTING PRT SC TO WORK

The 95LX print screen feature sends text characters to the printer, but not graphics. In addition, depending on which printer driver you have selected and which printer you are using, it may not print many international characters. I use the HP DeskJet 500 with my 95LX and found that I could only get international characters to print (i.e. the German diphthongs ä, ö, ü, ß, etc.) if I selected the IBM Proprinter driver (press SetUp Printer Config Name 3).

I use PS.COM (archived in 95-PS.EXE) to print graphic screens (both pictures and graphic representations of text). It is particularly useful in saving proof of some of the unbelievable end games I've had with **Chess**, **Gomoku**, and other games. I found that selecting the HP LaserJet option in Set Up produced the best results with this program. (Press SetUp Printer Config Name 2). I did notice that after activating PS.COM from the DOS prompt, my .EXM programs could not be evoked, even with SWITCH!. However, if I ran PS .COM from SWTICH!, I could evoke the .EXM programs. Therefore, I don't evoke PS.COM from my AUTOEXEC.BAT file anymore.

Hermann Schmitt
Winnweiler, GERMANY

& Misc

ALTERNATIVE SPELLING CHECKERS FOR 95LX

I was wandering around the local WIZ electronics store and I came across an electronic Roget's Thesaurus and Spell Checker made by Seiko Instruments. This little 4" x 2.5" x 3/8" computer cost $35 and has a miniature QWERTY keyboard and a 10 character display (scrolls to 20).

It has 80,000 words for spelling and 500,000 cross references in the Thesaurus. It also has a calculator and a tiny memo memory. I debated the merits of this over the HP Dictionary/Thesaurus Card. The $35 Seiko is slightly less convenient, but a RAM card spell checker would cost manytimes more. I bought one and I would recommend it for the price.

Stanley Dobrowski
CompuServe ID: [71031,2162]

PROGRAMMING TIP - RECOGNIZE THE 95LX

Sometimes a program needs to identify that it is running on the 95LX and not a desktop PC. This is so it can adjust to the unique environment of the 95LX. There are programming routines to determine this. Below are two examples.

```
ASSEMBLER ROUTINE
   is_hp       proc
      push     ax bx cx dx
      mov      ax, 4DD4h
      int      15h
      cmp      bx, 4850h
      jnz      @not_hp
      cmp      cx, 0101h
      jnz      @not_hp
      mov      rom_version, dl
      jmp      @end_is_hp
   @not_hp:
      stc
   @end_is_hp:
      pop      dx cx bx ax
      ret
   is_hp       endp
```

The above routine sets the carry flag if an HP95 is not found. DOS v3.22 is a ROM version and may have appeared in early laptops or portables.

C LANGUAGE ROUTINE

The C language version is directly usable for Borland C compilers. You might have to adapt for Microsoft C to make this work.

```
#include <dos.h>
/*
* Check if running on HP95,
return 1 if so, else return 0
*
*/
int IsHP95(void)
   {union REGS r;
   r.x.ax = 0x4dd4;
   int86(0x15, &r, &r);
   return r.x.bx == 0x4850 &&
   r.x.cx == 0x0101;}
```

Mark Scardina
CompuServe ID: [76711,732]
Gilles Kohl
CompuServe ID: [100114,3146]

Shareware/Freeware Mentioned

On the HP Palmtop Paper ON DISK

*CIS**SHR	**123DLM**	– M/J 93
*CIS**SHR	**95Buddy**	– J/A 92
*CIS	**95PS.EXE**	– J/F 92
*CIS Free	**DIRLIS.EXE**	– M/J 93
	_HPWK1.ZIP	– M/J 92
*CIS Free	**MACBAK**	– M/J 93
*CIS	**TIMEOUT**	– J/F 92

**CIS – Also available in the HP Handhelds forum of CompuServe.*

***SHR – SHAREWARE is software distributed free of charge for evaluation purposes only.*

*AOL -many of these files may be found on American Online in the Palmtop Library (keyword **Palmtop**).*

HOW TO CONTACT US

There are a number of ways to get in touch with *The HP Palmtop Paper* staff. You can write; mail us a disk with your comments; send CompuServe mail; fax; or call. Our address is:

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The HP Palmtop Paper
PO Box 869 or 57 E. Broadway
Fairfield, IA 52556, U.S.A.

Fax #:515-472-1879
Phone: 515-472-6330
or 800-373-6114

CompuServe ID:
Hal Goldstein, [75300,2443]

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- FREE AUTOMATED SUPPORT— is offered 24 hours a day by calling 800-443-1254.
- REQUEST FAXED OR MAILED INFORMATION — 800-752-0900.

On-Line Support — offered by these bulletin board services.

- COMPUSERVE GO HPHAND FORUM - Call 800-848-8199 or 614-457-0802: For FREE membership state #231.
- AMERICA ONLINE Keyword PALMTOP - Call 800-227-6364 or 703-893-6288 for membership information.

How to submit an article

The richness of *The HP Palmtop Paper* comes from the contributions of Palmtop PC users. We and your fellow users welcome your submissions. (We do not offer payment for articles; your reward is knowing that you've helped others.)

If you have a good idea and want to "go for it," send it in via CompuServe E-Mail [75300,2443] or send disk or hard copy to Hal Goldstein or Rich Hall at the above address. Alternatively you can send an outline of your idea. We will try to guide you as to when and whether we would use the article and contact you if we need clarification or have any suggestions. We may want to use an article but for a variety of reasons you may not see it for many months. Please understand that we cannot promise to run any article.

If you can, especially if you write a Palmtop Profile, send us a black and white photo of yourself.

Products Advertised in *The HP Palmtop Paper*

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Software on The HP Palmtop Paper ON DISK (May/June 1993)

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ABKTL.EXE	APPT: Stand alone Appointment Book viewer/editor	Shareware	23, 25
APPTBOOK.ZIP	APPT: Misc Appointment Book add-ins	Share/Free	31
MULTIDAY.ZIP	APPT: Version 3.01 of the daily or weekly list view of .ABK files	Shareware	27
ZApp	APPT: Appointment Book viewer	Shareware	29
TODO.PBK	PHONE: A sample to-do list in a .PBK file	Free	43
PTPDISKS.PBK	PHONE: A .PBK file listing of ON DISK files	Free	4
123DLM.ZIP	1-2-3: Add-in that outputs .WK1 for input to database	Free	58
MOVIE.WK1	1-2-3: .WK1 database of movie reviews	Free	40
TLG.ZIP	1-2-3: .WK1 with keystroke macros; SETUP.ENV with User Keys	Free	48
PRGTOOT1.ZIP	Programming: Programmers tools	Free/Share	49-51
PRGTOOL2.ZIP	Programming: Programmers tools	Free/Share	49-51
DIRLIS.EXE	Utility: Creates directory listing of 95LX drives	Free	58
IRPRT.COM	Utility: Print 95LX output to an HP infrared printer	Free	22
MACBAK	Utility: Mac hypercard stack for doing 95LX backups	Free	58
UNZIP.EXE	Utility: decompresses .ZIP files	Free	na
HPALL.ZIP	Text: Descriptions of files in all HP forums of CompuServe	na	na
ADVERT.ZIP	Text: in-depth descriptions, products advertised this issue	na	na
PTP9.ZIP	Text: The HP Palmtop Paper, May/Jun 1993	na	na
README.ZIP	Text: cover letter for HP Palmtop Paper ON DISK	na	na

Software mentioned and included in other issues of The HP Palmtop Paper On Disk or the 1992 Subscribers Disk.

_HPWK1.ZIP	(May/Jun 92) Built-in 95LX spreadsheets	Free	58
95BUDDY.ZIP	(Nov/Dec 92) New version of a popular utility	Shareware	26,43,58
95PS.EXE	(Jul/Aug 92) Graphics utility	Shareware	59
ALBERT.PCX	(92 Subscribers Disk) Graphics file of Albert Einstein	Freeware	5
EFMS	(Sep/Oct 92) Small flat-file database	Shareware	37
HPTRIX	(Jan/Feb 92) Tetris game for the 95LX, graphics	Free	4
NOTE95.ZIP	(Mar/Apr 93) Database program for taking notes	Shareware	32
PKSL95.EXE	(Fall 91) in DIVDISK with other games	Shareware	5
FREYJA	(Mar/Apr 93) Text editor MEMUTIL & THOR included	Freeware	49
RE.EXE	(92 Subscribers Disk) View file and search for text	Free	5
SOKOBAN.ZIP	(Nov/Dec 92) Maze game of logic	Free	5
TIMEOUT.Zip	(Jan/Feb 92) Reset timeout	Free	58
UFK.ZIP	(Mar/Apr 93) Lotto Solver equation	Free	56
UNO.ZIP	(May/Jun 92) Note taking program	Shareware	34
WEEKABK	(92 Subscribers Disk) (newer version N/D 92 on disk)	Free	29,40

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