Radio Shack
Dealer/Franchise
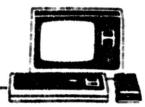# TRS-80 UPDATE

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*                                                                   *
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PRODUCT NEWS

The following information is provided by Technical Support,
Computer Customer Service, and Computer Merchandising.

"CUSTOM MANUFACTURED FOR RADIO SHACK"

We have had several inquiries concerning why our new computers say "Custom
Manufactured for Radio Shack" instead of "Custom Manufactured by Radio Shack". All
new and future computer products will be labeled in this way because Tandy
Corporation is the manufacturer, Radio Shack the distributor and retailer.

PROFILE 4 PLUS (26-1635, 01.00.00) - PUBLICATION CHANGES

The following changes should be made to page 44:

READS:
If you use the 7 indicator, however, instead of the field numbers on the field line:

CHANGE:
If you use the ? indicator, however, instead of the field numbers on the field line:

The underlined items in the report below should be in bold.

Company: ACME Products: Awls   Widgets   Nails
Company: BUSH Products: Widgets Nails   Awls
Company: MART Products: Awls   Gadgets
Company: MART Products: Awls   Gadgets
Company: ACME Products: Awls   Widgets   Nails
Company: BUSH Products: Widgets Nails   Awls
Company: ACME Products: Awls   Widgets   Nails
Company: BUSH Products: Widgets Nails   Awls

The following change should be made to page 66:

READS:
Extended Key Segment. If your file has only one segment and you expand the file to
the point at which the expansion no longer fits on the current diskette, Profile
expands the file for additional drives. The message "Disk n is full", where n is
the drive number, appears; ....

CHANGE:
Extended Key Segment. If your file has only one segment and you expand the file to
the point at which the expansion no longer fits on the current diskette, Profile
expands the file for additional drives. (See your Model 4 Disk System Owner's
Manual under SYSTEM and SYSGEN commands.) The message "Disk n is full", where n is
the drive number, appears; ....

DESKMATE (25-1000) - COPYING A FILE TO ITSELF

A problem in the Deskmate software has been found that should be noted. If a user attempts to copy a file at the menu to itself, the file will be corrupted and rendered useless without warning. We plan to put some controls in the software to prevent this in a future release. This problem exists in both versions 01.00.00 and 01.01.00.

IMPORTANT NOTICE ABOUT TANDY 200 (26-3860)

Please make sure your customers follow this procedure for first-time bootup:
1. Put in fresh alkaline batteries.
2. After the batteries are installed, wait 30 minutes before turning the unit on.
   (The reason for this is that the Nicad battery is at a low power state and needs to be charged first.)

*   If the customer doesn't follow the above
*   procedure the unit will fail to operate correctly
*   and/or garbage may appear on the LCD display.

TANDY 2000/1200 HD/1000 - SOFTWARE COMPATIBILITY

The Tandy 1000 products which will operate on the Tandy 1200 HD or vice versa will be noted on the outside by the sticker. For example, Wordstar Professional (25-3170) will or will not run on the 1000/2000 as specified on the sticker affixed to the specific package you receive. When products are modified to run on more than one computer, they will be noted as such on the sticker affixed to the package or through revised spine art. Always check it if there is any question.

CUTTHROATS (25-1121, 01.00.00) - WITH THE TANDY 2000 OR 1200 HD

Cutthroats for the Tandy 1000 also operates on the Tandy 2000 and 1200 HD.

MATH CO-PROCESSOR (26-5143) FOR THE TANDY 2000

Many of you have asked for a math co-processor for the Tandy 2000. It is under development and is expected in June 1985. Unlike the 8087 math co-processor for the IBM or 1200 HD, the 8087-1 for the Tandy 2000 operates at 8 MHZ for dramatic increases in performance. It's primary use will be for engineering, CAD/CAM, or other numeric intensive applications. The product will not require a slot but will be contained on a small P.C. board that plugs into the main logic board. It is priced at $499.95. The product will require installation by Radio Shack.

Applications that will support the product include Framework, VersaCad, AutoCad, C, Better Basic, Fortran, Pascal, Assembler. With the Tandy 2000's advanced graphics, and the 8087 co-processor we expect the 2000 to have no competition in the CAD/CAM marketplace.

EDUCATION

INTRODUCTION TO COLOR BASIC (26-2680)

Introduction to Color BASIC (26-2680) should be available in April 1985. This classroom package, written by Dr. Norman T. Bell, was designed to teach BASIC programming on the Tandy Color Computer. The package includes an instructor guide with overhead transparencies, and twenty-five student workbooks.

In Lesson 1, students are introduced to the Color Computer. They familiarize themselves with the keyboard and learn the functions of special keys. A BASIC program is presented, along with explanations of the commands used in the program.

Lesson 2 explains how to add, change, and delete BASIC program lines. Students learn how to use a tape recorder to save and load programs, and the CSAVE, CLOAD, and SKIPF commands are introduced.

Lesson 3 defines memory-related terms, such as bit, byte, K, RAM, and ROM. Students learn to use the LET command to put information into memory and the PRINT command to call the information back for display on the screen.

In Lesson 4, students examine the screen layout and learn to use two new print commands, PRINTTAB and PRINT@ to place text at specific screen locations. The concepts of "wraparound" and random number generation are also introduced.

Lesson 5 explains several ways to control the execution of a BASIC program by using conditional and unconditional branching. Students learn the GOTO and IF...THEN commands, and study how to use relational operators.

Lesson 6 introduces "looping", a programming structure that tells the computer to repeat an operation a certain number of times. The lesson concentrates on the FOR-TO-NEXT-STEP command, and on loops within loops.
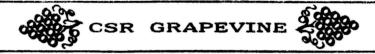
In Lesson 7, students learn how to use block graphics on the Color Computer. The lesson explains how to use the SET command to light any block of the screen with any of the colors available, and how to use the RESET command to return a specified portion of the screen to its original color.

Lesson 8 introduces the READ-DATA command, the rules for using it, and the OUT-OF-DATA error messages associated with it. Students also learn to use the RESTORE command, and how to use a word of data to interrupt a READ-DATA operation.

Lesson 9 concentrates on the purpose, format, and usage of the INPUT command, which allows the computer to accept data from the keyboard during program run and to store the data in the indicated memory location.

In Lesson 10, students learn how to use the Color Computer as a calculator for arithmetic purposes. Four arithmetic operators, with their symbols and usage, are explained. An easy rule to remember the order of execution is provided, along with some arithmetic examples on which to practice.

By the end of the course, students will know how to write, enter, run, and edit BASIC programs, how to use various commands to control their programs, and how to create their own graphics displays which demonstrate both color and movement.

CSR GRAPEVINE

As indicated by the name, "Grapevine", this section is where Customer Service Representatives share information with each other. It is here you can communicate your latest findings and "bits of wisdom" to all CSR's. If you wish to contribute to the CSR Grapevine use the Submission Form attached to RSCC/PLUSCC TRS-80 Update 1985-01 - 1985-04, or send your information to CompuServe ID number 70007,535. Please be sure to include your Name, Title, Telephone Number and Store Number.

NOTE: We attempt to separate fact from fiction but not being omniscient we may occasionally goof. If so, let us know about it. We'll gladly correct ourselves.

All articles which do not include a by-line came from Computer Customer Service.

ERROR 39 DURING A BACKUP

An often overlooked reason for an Error 39 doing a backup is the number of extents in a file. If a file uses all 16 extents CSB 4910-22 may be the solution.

(L. COX, 01-7879)

PAYROLL PROGRAMS AND ALLOCATED TIPS

Currently, no Radio Shack payroll program will calculate "allocated tips", nor print it on the W-2 form.

(C. HYDE, 01-7879)

GETTING STARTED WITH COLOR BASIC (26-3191) - APPENDIX C AND D

In the new Getting Started With Color BASIC manuals which come with Color Computers (the new size ones ©1984), pages 151 and 152 (Appendix C and D) are blank. When customers inquire about this, you can provide them a copy of the appropriate pages from the 26-3191 (Getting Started) manual which is available separately.

(S. ORPEN, 01-7879)

MODEL III ZORK I (26-1951, 01.01.00) - BACKUP PROBLEM

There was a problem with production of some these diskettes, and consequently some of them will not permit the one backup you're supposed to be able to make. If a customer gets one of these, send it back to Tandy Software Exchange. They will send back a good diskette.

(S. ORPEN, 01-7879)

MODEL 4 MAILLIST (TRSDOS 06 01.02) - LISTING TO THE SCREEN

Model 4 MAILLIST has a bug when listing to the screen. It does not always clear all the information off the screen before displaying the next record. To fix, follow this procedure:

1. Make a backup of your system diskette
2. Run the MAILLIST program on your backup.
3. Hit the 'BREAK' key at the main menu. This puts you at the BASIC 'Ready' prompt.
4. Type the following line:

   890 PRINT TAB(27);CITY$;TAB(27);PHONE$;S$:RETURN   <ENTER>

5. To save the change, type: SAVE "MAILLIST"

6. To continue execution type: RUN

                                            (C. FLEECE, 01-7879)

MODEL 4 SUPERSCRIPSIT (26-1595, 01.01.00) - TYPING SPEED

Model 4 SuperSCRIPSIT, version 01.01.00 has been found to drop characters and sometimes duplicates text (acts as if a user key has been executed) on its own. This seems to be occurring when typing at above average to fast speeds (e.g. 70+ w.p.m.). The problem will be fixed in the next reassembly of SuperSCRIPSIT, but for now you may want to have customers who type pretty fast remain on version 01.00.09

TK! SOLVER MECHANICAL ENGINEERING (26-1633) - LOADING INSTRUCTIONS

On page i, part 3 under "Loading Instructions" there are several PURGE commands. The space between 'PURGE" and whatever follows it is not very clearly defined. Be sure to inform customers, who may be having problems, that the space must be there.

PROFILE ARCHIVE (26-4557, 01.00.02) - EXTENDED OVER DRIVES

Profile Archive will not archive a file that is extended over drives. This is not a bug, it is a limitation of the program.

                                            (R. MOORE, 01-7879)

UNIFY (26-6415, 01.00.00) - MODIFYING THE KEY FIELD

A reminder to those running Unify. You cannot modify the field type (i.e. string, amount, float, etc.) or the makeup (i.e. combination fields) of the key field! Doing a database reconfigure and a hash table repoint will not correct the problem Dump your data into a Xenix file using SQL and add a new table to your schema, delete the old one, reconfigure, then read your data back into the new file using SQL.

                                            (B. OLSON, 01-7879)

TANDY 1000 DESKMATE (25-1000, 01.00.00) - FILER "BUG"

Some of you are aware of a "bug" in Tandy 1000 Deskmate where, when the Filer
program is selected, the cursor goes to the bottom right hand corner of the screen
and sits there until the <ENTER> key is pressed. When the <ENTER> key is pressed,
you are returned to the Main Menu.

This is not actually a bug in Deskmate, but is caused when the file "CONFIG.SYS" on
the MS-DOS disk which is booted contains the line "device=ansi.sys". This line
causes the "ansi" driver to be loaded which takes up about 4K of memory, leaving too
little for Deskmate Filer to be run. Remove this file from the disk you are booting
from and there will be no problem. NOTE THAT THIS ONLY OCCURS ON 128K MACHINES.

(CAM STEVENSON, STORE #0572)

TANDY 1000 MICROSOFT WORD (25-1153, 01.00.00) - MEMORY REQUIREMENTS

Microsoft Word for the 1000 requires 256K as per the manual   It will not run on a
standard 128K machine.

(B OLSON, 01-7879)

HARD DISK DRIVER SOFTWARE (25-1157) - CANCELLED

The Hard Disk Driver Software for the Tandy 1000 is listed on page 5 of the RSC-14
Computer Catalog. The January 25, 1985 Computer Merchandising memo listing Late
Merchandise in RSC-14 shows 25-1127 to be cancelled. The Driver Software will be
included with the Hard Disk Controller Board (25-1007).

(S ORPEN, 01-7879)

FORMATTING A HARD DISK ON A TANDY 1200 HD

If a customer tries to format a hard disk on a Tandy 1200 HD without using the '/f'
option, they will receive the message "invalid parameters' Customers are making
this mistake because pages 1 - 29 of the "An Introduction and Guide" manual for the
Tandy 1200 HD says to use the command: "format c:/s". Fortunately, the replacement
pages included with the manual correct this, telling them to use: "format c:/s/f".

(C. FLEECE, 01-7879)

MICROSOFT WORD (26-5314, 01.00.00) - MONITORS AND GRAPHICS

Microsoft Word for the 2000 in some cases will not work with the VM-1 Monochrome
Monitor (26-5111) if the Color Graphics Chip Kit (26-5141) has been installed. If
the color chips have been installed, when booting hit the <F12> key to tell the
operating system that you have a monochrome monitor.

(R. MOORE, 01-7879)

MICROSOFT WORD (26-5314, 01.00.00) - SPECIAL CODES IN PROPORTIONAL SPACING

When printing special codes such as boldface and underline in proportional spacing (pitch 8 in Microsoft Word) with the DW IIB you must specify under Print Options that the Draft is NO. Otherwise the special print features will be distorted. Selecting Print Options Draft NO will produce a "final" sample of the document boldface and all. Below are samples of both Draft YES and Draft NO.

Draft YES

> Now is the time for all good men to come to the aid of their country Now is the time for taa daa for all the neat guys all good men to come to the aid of their countryNow is the time for all good men to come to the aid of their country Now is the time for all good men to come to the aid of more text in there their countryw is the time for all good men to time had to come to an end come to the aid of their country NowisthetimefforallI good men to come to the aid of their countryNow is the time for all good men to come to the aid of and if in the time of jon their country Now is the where is the milk time for THIS IS UNDERLINING all good men to come to the aid of and so on and so no their country Now is the time for all good men to come to the aid of their country Now is the time for all good men to come to the aid of their where is the beef country Now is the time for all good men to come to the aid of their country Now is the time for all good men to come to the aid of their country.Now is the time for all good men to come to the aid of their own private room where good things happen country Now is the time for all good this is another fine mess youve got us into men to come to the aid of their country. Now is the time for all good men to come to the aid of their this is to laugh country. Now is the time for all good men to come to the aid of their country.

Draft NO

> Now is the time for all good men to come to the aid of their country Now is the time for taa daa for all the neat guys all good men to come to the aid of their countryNow is the time for all good men to come to the aid of their country Now is the time for all good men to come to the aid of more text in there their countryw is the time for all good men to time had to come to an end come to the aid of their country Now is the time for all good men to come to the aid of their countryNow is the time for all good men to come to the aid of and if in the time of jon their country Now is the where is the milk time for THIS IS UNDERLINING all good men to come to the aid of and so on and so no their country Now is the time for all good men to come to the aid of their country Now is the time for all good men to come to the aid of their where is the beef country Now is the time for all good men to come to the aid of their country Now is the time for all good men to come to the aid of their country.Now is the time for all good men to come to the aid of their own private room where good things happen country Now is the time for all good this is another fine mess youve got us into men to come to the aid of their country. Now is the time for all good men to come to the aid of their this is to laugh country. Now is the time for all good men to come to the aid of their country.

(J. PARRIS, 01-7879)

DBASE II (26-5352, 02.40.01) WITH A VM-2 MONITOR

When using a VM-2 Monitor (26-3211, for the Tandy 1000) and running dBase II, intensity of the screen characters may be somewhat dim. To remedy this, use the SET COLOR command as follows:

SET COLOR TO 10,15