



C128 Price And Progress Report

Goodbye Harry, Hello Jim

This January Commodore announced that its U.S. CEO Harry Copperman was reassigned to the international Commodore holding company Commodore International Ltd. Replacing him as head of US operations is James Dionne, an 11 year veteran and former general manager of Commodore's Canadian sales subsidiary. Mr. Copperman's move was termed a "promotion" in the press release, but some observers believe that it is a cover story for what is essentially a termination of his participation in Commodore operations. At the same time there is evidence that the shuffle is part of a general restructuring of Commodore's North American operations. A layoff of 15% of the employees remaining at West Chester was announced at the same time as the CEO shift, and the latest quarterly report shows that 85% of Commodore International's sales were generated overseas.

As Commodore 128 owners, what does all this mean to you? Not much. With the discontinuance of the 1581 disk drive (see our new Answer Man column in this issue for the details), Commodore has effectively ceased its participation in the C128 market. Unless you still need a RGB monitor or are looking for a 1200 bps modem, Commodore has nothing to sell you for your 128. If Commodore were to leave the North American market entirely, you should barely notice the difference. C128 computer and peripheral choices would remain exactly the same (used equipment and third-party products).

As long-time Commodore watchers, we were always surprised that Commodore refrained from making an organized effort to sell 64 and 128 owners an Amiga or one of its MSDOS line, especially since the non-U.S. arms of Commodore International have had considerable success doing just that. By running the current Power Up promotion, Commodore has at last made such an effort, one we applaud. We can only guess how much more effective this program would have been if it had been combined with a planned and well-organized phase-out of their eight-bit products.

So Where Can You Buy That Big, Fast Drive Now?

Maybe you'd rather have a 20 megabyte drive instead of a 1581 anyway. Creative Micro Designs has taken a bit step toward making itself the answer to more users mass storage needs with a price reduction on its HD series hard drives.

Model#	New Price	Old Price	Reduced
HD-20	\$499.95	\$599.95	\$100.00
HD-40	\$649.95	\$899.95	\$150.00
HD-100	\$999.95	\$1149.95	\$150.00
HD-200	\$1299.95	\$1499.95	\$200.00

Shipping and handling charges remain the same for all models. Orders may be placed by calling 1-800-6383-CMD. Information, questions, and support may be handled by calling 1-413-525-0023. Or you could talk with CMD software engineer Doug Cotton directly during the weekly CMD QuantumLink online conference Monday nights 9 pm central time/10 pm eastern.

Ante Upper

Ante Up Version 2 is now available. Its developer lists improvements such as multi-drive support, 100% memory residence, and three more Geos translations. The upgrade from earlier version is \$6.85 postpaid. If you are on Qlink you can purchase this graphics format translation package for a special price of \$17 plus an unstated postage charge. Contact address for Ante Up is: Starfollower Productions, 4224 Bakman, N. Hollywood, CA 91602.

Speaking of QLink

Our corporate arm, Voyager Mindtools, has taken over expanded duties on QuantumLink since the beginning of 1991. We now handle information provider duties throughout the Hardware Support area of the Commodore Information Network. Those of you that have participated in TC128's existing area on this network can now find us in areas supporting other hardware as well. Our new arrangement is going to give us more direct control over C128 file areas, so there should be more to download from TC128 in 1991. Former TC128 editor Loren Lovhaug will be available online every Sunday night 9 pm central time, 10 pm eastern in the Hardware Support area Conference Room during the coming months. To sign up for QLink you can call 1-800-782-2278 or write to them at 8619 Westwood Center Drive, Vienna, VA 22180.

Who Knows What Evil Lurks in the Heart of East Longmeadow, MA?

Creative Micro Designs has taken over the sales of Dr. Evil Laboratories SID Symphony Stereo Cartridge and the Swiftlink 232 fast serial communications interface. Effective January 1, 1991, CMD began handling all sales and service of new units of both products.

If you're looking for the accompanying software and books that Dr. Evil used to distribute, CMD will be handling them too. CMD has the Enhanced Sidplayer book/disk 3-voice music editing package as well as the powerful 6-voice Stereo Editor and a disk of Sidplayer extensions for MIDI playback.

Any orders received by Dr. Evil Labs which are postmarked after December 31, 1990 will be forwarded to CMD for processing. Customers are urged to use CMD's toll-free order line and credit card capabilities for quick, hassle-free ordering. Their order line is 800-638-3263 (US and Canada). For orders outside the U.S. or for questions call 413-525-0023

Dr. Evil Labs will continue to provide warranty service on any products it has sold, as well as online support on QuantumLink, CompuServe and GENie. Dr. Evil Labs will also continue to distribute the public domain telecommunications program C-64/128 Kermit v2.2

continued on page 8