

## Companion Printers

Dependable Text with Graphics for Personal Printing

digital



### The Ideal Companion Printers for Today's Desktop Systems

The quiet, compact Companion Printers set new standards of quality, performance, and versatility for low-cost, desktop printers. Available in both serial (LA75) and parallel (LA75P) interface models, they are fully compatible with software written for Digital printers and for the IBM Proprinter. Fast print speed, flexible paper handling, and easy operation make the Companion Printers superb choices for anyone who requires high-quality "personal" text and graphics printing capabilities. They're the ideal printing solutions for most Digital computing environments including those with VAXmates, IBM PCs and PC-compatibles, VT-family video terminals, and workstations.

For a wide range of computing applications, the Companion Printers' unique combination of performance, convenience, and compatibility can help you get the most out of your system.

### Highlights

- Available in a serial interface model (LA75) – compatible with Digital systems
- Available in a parallel interface model (LA75P) – compatible with IBM PCs, PC-compatibles, PS/2, or equivalent
- Sharp text printing in letter-quality, near-letter-quality, memo, and draft modes
- Fast printing at speeds up to 250 characters per second
- Print settings selectable from front panel switches or under software control
- Full bit-map graphics printing, ability to mix text and graphics
- Very quiet operation and reliable printing
- Convenient, versatile paper handling
- Options include automatic sheetfeeder and font cartridges

### **State-of-the-art Performance and Convenience**

The Companion Printers are versatile and reliable impact printers that incorporate numerous state-of-the-art printing and user-oriented features. With their small desktop footprint and quiet operation, the Companion Printers are well matched with today's professional work environments.

The paper-handling capabilities of the Companion Printers represent a new standard for versatility and user convenience. With their built-in tractor feed, the Companion Printers accept continuous forms paper, including labels and three-part forms (one original plus two copies). A built-in low-tear bar enables users to separate printed from unprinted pages without wasting a single sheet of paper.

With the Companion Printers, you simply insert cutsheet paper into the unit for single-sheet printing. There's no need to remove the tractors or the continuous forms paper. And that's not all. You can insert and print envelopes the same way.



*The parallel model is ideal for any non-Digital systems environment.*

Thanks to a unique, pivoting "push/pull" tractor design, the Companion Printers easily accommodate formed paper through a slot in the bottom of the printers. Or, if you choose, you can select the Companion Printers' optional single-bin cutsheet feeder that accepts up to 100 sheets of paper.

### **A New Quality Standard for Impact Printing**

The Companion Printers print quickly and cleanly in any one of five modes: draft, memo, near-letter-quality, letter-quality, and bit-map graphics. And with their bidirectional print technology, the Companion Printers achieve print speeds usually found only on more expensive printers.

You can select most of the Companion Printers' printing modes either with easy-to-use front-panel switches or under software control. It's easy to choose the best combination of print speed and quality for the job at hand.

The Companion Printers' built-in character sets provide added capabilities for maximum versatility in personal computing, word processing, business graphics, and other applications environments. A full multinational character set lets you print in 14 languages.

The Companion Printers can print text with superscripts and subscripts, underlines and double underlines, shadow bold, and even italics. Now you can highlight and emphasize important information in new and powerful ways. And the optional Letter Gothic and Orator font cartridges let you add even more impact to your documents by simply plugging in a new typeface.



*Front panel switches make setup easy.*

### **Printers that Protect Your Software Investment**

Whether your Companion Printers are operating in the Digital mode or emulating IBM's Proprinter or industry-standard compatibility mode, you can control the Companion Printers by front-panel switches or through software written to operate Digital's LA50, LA100, LA210 printers, and the IBM Proprinter.

The Companion Printers are compatible with most operating systems and applications written to support Digital and third-party printers. No rewriting of software is required.

### **PC Connectivity**

Available in both serial (LA75) and parallel (LA75P) interface models, the Companion Printers are ideal for any Digital or non-Digital systems environment. The serial model, the LA75, connects with an MMJ connector to Digital hosts supporting DEC423 wiring. The LA75 also connects with any RS232-C-type hosts using adapters available from Digital. A power cord and a 10-foot DEC423 cable are included with every LA75.

The parallel model, the LA75P, includes a Centronics-type interface, compatible with IBM PCs, PC-compatibles, PS/2, or equivalent. A power cord and a 10-foot parallel cable are included with every LA75P.

### Companions that Are Easy to Use

Unlike most personal printers, the Companion Printers let you change print settings and printer characteristics through well-labeled buttons on the front of the printer, eliminating annoying, inaccessible dip switches. At the touch of a button, the printers will print out the current settings, in plain English. You can make changes by pressing the front panel buttons singly or in combination.

The printers' front panel LED indicators inform you of a broad range of printer settings. The functions of all front-panel switches and status displays are indicated by a label strip printed in the user's native language.

The convenient printhead positioning switch eliminates guesswork by enabling users to set the Companion Printers' printhead exactly to the type of paper being used, whether it's single sheets, with or without copies, multipart forms, or envelopes.

### Digital Stands Behind the Companion Printers

The Companion Printers are fully supported by Digital's top-rated field service organization of more than 25,000 professionals located in nearly 600 field service centers worldwide.

## Specifications

### Printing Speed (*burst*)

|                          |          |
|--------------------------|----------|
| Draft mode               | 250 ch/s |
| Memo mode                | 125 ch/s |
| Near-letter-quality mode | 42 ch/s  |
| Letter-quality mode      | 32 ch/s  |

### Print Characteristics

#### *Print density (horizontal × vertical dots)*

|                          |                             |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Draft mode               | 12 × 9 matrix               |
| Memo mode                | 24 × 9 matrix               |
| Near-letter-quality mode | 24 × 17 matrix              |
| Letter-quality mode      | 36 × 18 matrix              |
| Bit-map graphics mode    | 180 d/i × 144 d/i (maximum) |

|                     |                    |
|---------------------|--------------------|
| <i>Aspect ratio</i> | 1:1, 2:1, or 2.5:1 |
|---------------------|--------------------|

#### *Horizontal pitch*

|                           |                               |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Standard-width characters | 10, 12, 16.5, 17.1 ch/inch    |
| Double-width characters   | 5, 6, 8.25, 8.55 ch/inch      |
| Vertical pitch            | 2, 3, 4, 6, 8, and 12 li/inch |

|                 |   |
|-----------------|---|
| Character Sets: | U.S. ASCII, IBM Proprinter (Line Drawing, Chart Drawing, Symbol Drawing), Katakana, 14 National Replacement Character Sets (NRC), ISO 8-bit Supplemental, DEC Supplemental, DEC Technical, VT100 Line Drawing |
|-----------------|---|

### Communications

|                 |   |
|-----------------|---|
| LA75 baud rates | 110, 200, 300, 600, 1200, 2400, 4800, and 9600              |
| LA75P           | Centronics-type interface model                             |
| Character code  | 7- or 8-bit ASCII with odd, even, mark, space, or no parity |
| Buffer capacity | 2,000 characters  |
| Buffer control: | XON/XOFF protocol, READY/OFF-LINE switch                    |

### Power Requirements

|                   |  |
|-------------------|--|
| Voltage/frequency | 100 V, 50/60 Hz; 120 V, 50/60 Hz; 220 V, 50/60 Hz; 240 V, 50/60 Hz |
| Power cord        | 2.0 m (6.7 ft) long, detachable                                    |

**For More Information**

To learn more about the Companion Printers, please contact your Digital Sales Representative, your Authorized Distributor, or call DECdirect at 1-800-DIGITAL. For more information about Digital's family of terminals and printers, ask for Digital's *Terminals and Printers Handbook*.

Digital believes the information in this publication is accurate as of its publication date; such information is subject to change without notice. Digital is not responsible for any inadvertent errors.

The following are trademarks of Digital Equipment Corporation: DEC, DECUS, the Digital logo, LA50, LA75, LA75P, LA100, LA210, MicroVAX, PDP, Q-bus, UNIBUS, VAX, and VMS.

Proprinter is a trademark of International Business Machines. Centronics is a trademark of Centronics Data Computer Corporation.

**Specifications** (continued)

|                                 |  |
|---------------------------------|--|
| <b>Physical Characteristics</b> | Height: 12.1 cm (4.8 in); Depth: 34.5 cm (13.6 in); Width: 42.7 cm (16.8 in); Weight: 9.5 kg (21 lb)   |
| <b>Operating Environment</b>    | FCC Class B, Environmental—Class B (normal office environment)   |
| Temperature range               | 10°C to 40°C (50°F to 104°F)   |
| Relative humidity               | 10% to 90%   |
| Safety/performance              | Certified by UL (Underwriters Laboratory)<br>CSA (Canadian Standards Association)<br>FCC (Federal Communications Commission)<br>VDE (Verband Deutscher Elektrotechniker)<br>IEC (International Electronics Commission) |
| <b>Models</b>                   | LA75 (serial interface)<br>LA75P (parallel interface)  |

**Companion Printers Connectivity**

|   |                      |
|---|----------------------|
| Host Printer Port                           | Required MMJ Adapter |
| RS232-C serial 25-pin male                  | H8571-A              |
| RS232-C serial 9-pin male                   | H8571-B              |
| RS232-C serial 25-pin female (Rainbow only) | H8571-D              |

Most current Digital hosts and servers include adapters for hosts with RS232-C serial connections.

For any host supporting parallel communications, select the LA75P parallel model. Every LA75P printer includes a Centronics-type parallel interface and a BC19M-10 parallel cable.