SYMBOLICS

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SANTA MONICA, CAL. August 11, 1980 --- Symbolics, Inc. announces
that it will produce an integrated computer system specialized for
artificial intelligence and large-program application software
development. This computer draws on 15 years of research by
Symbolics' founders at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology's
Artificial Intelligence Laboratory. Symbolics' new machine heralds
a new age in computer systems by providing the full power of a 32
bit processor and a high resolution graphics display to each user.

Symbolics, Inc. is a new computer company whose purpose is the
production of machines which can adequately support the next
generation of software intensive, interactive systems. Such
hardware/software systems will dramatically increase the
productivity of professionals such as physicians, lawyers,
scientists and design engineers.

This dedicated-resource concept is a network of high performance
interactive stations. Each station provides the power of a
dedicated CPU together with high speed network access to shared
file systems, tapes and graphics printers.

The network concept gives increased reliability, because the loss
of one station on the network does not bring down the others. A
medical diagnosis program, for example, will benefit substantially
from the superior response and reliability that Symbolics'
dedicated system provides.

The dedicated-resource concept can also be a single computer with a
disk and display making the full software power available in a
stand-alone configuration.

Symbolics' initial hardware configuration, an outgrowth of the MIT LISP machine development, includes a 32 bit, bipolar microprogrammed CPU with up to 16Kx48 of writable microstore; a 770x900 bit-mapped, raster graphics, flicker-free display with a "mouse" pointing device; optional color and grey-scale maps; a full paging virtual memory with 256Kx32 MOS RAM expandable to 2Mx32, backed up with an 80 Mbyte removable disk; and a high speed local (8Mbits/sec.) serial communication bus to other computers.

The mature and sophisticated software system includes a full 2 1/2 dimensional "window" system to provide any number of "pieces of paper" on which programs interact with the user. The pieces of paper can be moved using the 'mouse' and can overlap, providing the extra 1/2 dimension.

Systems software includes full graphics and "window" support, virtual memory, multiple processes, microcode compiler, network communications, and applications development software. Applications software packages to be marketed include a complete symbolic mathematics system which does calculus integrals, a digital circuit drawing and checking design system, and a VLSI design development system.

The software includes extensive support for the LISP language, the language of choice for the artificial intelligence community. Users of the InterLISP dialect of LISP should note that the special features of this machine will be available through a compatibility package which preserves the bulk of their software investment.