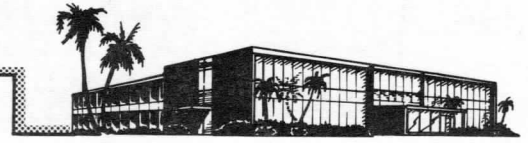




**FAIRCHILD WESTON  
SYSTEMS INC.**



FAIRCHILD WESTON SYSTEMS, INC.  
DATA SYSTEMS DIVISION  
P.O. BOX 3041  
SARASOTA, FLORIDA 33578



**30 YEARS OF PROGRESS  
IN SARASOTA THIS YEAR**

VOL. IX, NO. 11

NOVEMBER, 1987

## BIG DANCE CELEBRATES 30 YEARS IN SARASOTA

A large crowd of employees, retirees and guests filled the Sarasota Exhibition Hall on Saturday night, November 14, to enjoy an evening of dancing and fun, marking the Division's celebration of 30 years in Sarasota. The company, then known as Electro-Mechanical Research, relocated from Ridgefield, Conn., to Sarasota in 1957, and the event has been commemorated during 1987 with a year-long series of festive events.



A hard-working Dance committee, with help from many volunteers, completed the arrangements for the gala dance. Live music by "Headliner"... hors d'oeuvres... door prizes... bubble gum contest (won by Spencer Workman)... jitterbug contest (won by Sam Miller and Dottie Lang.)... antique cars... clever decorations of the fifties era... plants... balloons... photos by Ann Bassett, Willine Lahman, and Larry Stewart. These and many other details added to the success of the well-planned event.

Special recognition was given to the three committees which have staged the "30 Years in Sarasota Celebration" activities: EXTERNAL COMMITTEE, Evelyn Christian, John Elliott, Rick Englund, Rick Greenawalt, Linda Lotz, Don Parker, Barbara Rich, Jeanne Ruth, Naomi Sundstrom; INTERNAL ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE, Ron Basham, Dot Berner, Elaine Ellis, Freddie Masse, Carol Waters; HISTORY & MUSEUM COMMITTEE, Mark Hanigan, Isabel Wetz, Dale Woodland.

The Harley Davidson motorcycle display was provided by Ralph and Sharon Krueger. An antique car display  
(Continued on Page 2)

## TRAINING ON NEW TELEPHONES BEGINS WEEK OF DECEMBER 7

An intensive work schedule and much planning is now underway as the time for our new telephone system cutover approaches. The new phone system is scheduled to be operational on December 14, according to Charlie Morina, of Test Engineering.

"RCA installers have pulled most of the wires needed for the new Mitel SX-2000 system, and training for users is set to begin during the week of December 7," Charlie Morina reports.

Jacks are being installed in office walls for connection to the switch which has been installed in the new Switch Room. (The "switch" is the actual phone system.)

The new system, known as the Mitel SX-2000, has many new and useful features for user convenience. Training sessions will be scheduled for those employees who are the heaviest telephone users.

Data Systems Division has approximately 600 telephone instruments in Sarasota, and is a heavy user of domestic and international long distance lines, an important link to our customers and Field Offices.



Charlie Morina holds the Com-Line Phone which replaces our old single line telephone instruments; center, the Operator's Console which will be in the Front Lobby and in Debbie Sutor's office; at right, Debbie Sutor holds the Superset-4, which replaces our old keysets. Debbie will utilize the Operator's Console (Superset-7) as a maintenance terminal, to add, move, or make changes in the phone system.

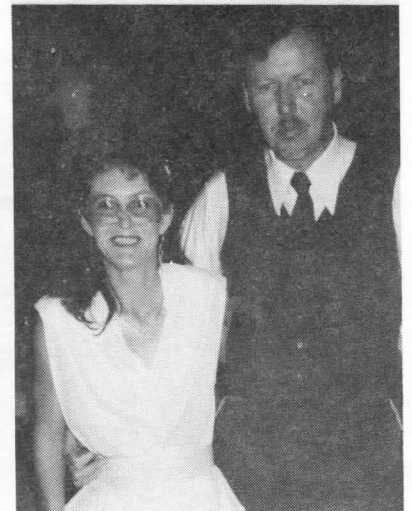
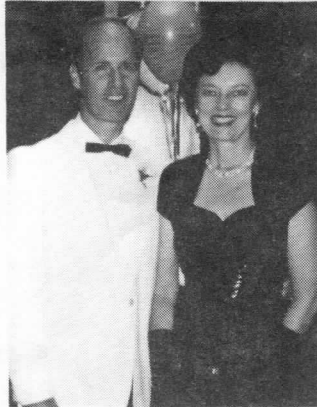
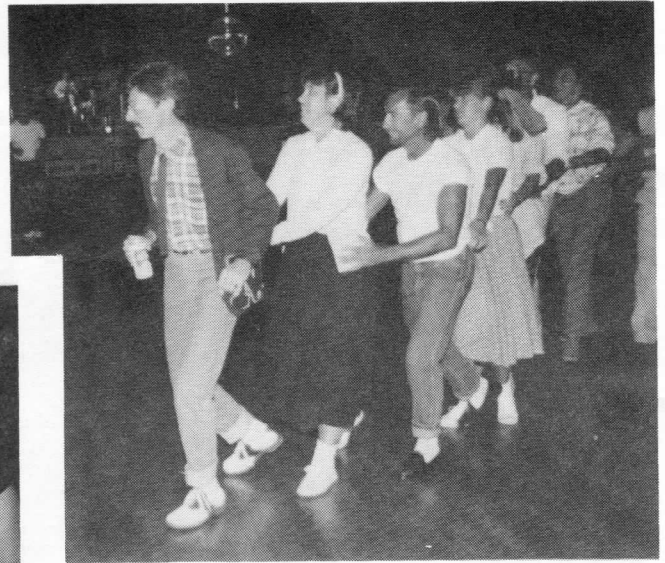
**AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER M/F/H/V**

# GALA DANCE MARKS HIGH POINT IN 30 YEARS CELEBRATION

(Continued from Page 1)

was arranged by Willine Lahman and Larry Stewart. The cars were on loan through the courtesy of John McGuire, Mr. & Mrs. Joe Hornsby, Mr. & Mrs. Roy Stanfield, and Tim Scott.

Door prizes included a camera, phone answering system, memo calculator, plants & planters, and a Burdine's gift certificate.



## PRE-RETIREMENT PLANNING SEMINAR GIVES USEFUL TIPS

The latest sessions in a series of Pre-Retirement Planning meetings for Data Systems employees were held on the evenings of November 10 and 12 in the Cafeteria. Forty-two employees and spouses attended the seminar which provides tips on looking ahead and planning for future well-being -- in areas such as financial planning, lifestyle, health, and social aspects of retirement.

"The guest speakers and the Personnel staff give their time and effort to point out the great need to plan ahead in your younger years," according to Dexter Nash, of Personnel. "Since we started the current series of seminars back in May, 1986, we've had the opportunity to hear some excellent speakers, and feedback from most attendees has been very positive."

Invitations go to groups of employees on a regular, planned basis, to encourage planning. In time we hope to reach all employees --even those in their early twenties, Dexter said.

# TGIF TEAM PROMOTES ENERGY SAVINGS AWARENESS

## ENERGY SAVINGS CONTEST OPEN TO ALL EMPLOYEES

Members of our Plant Facilities & Maintenance group have initiated an Energy Savings Awareness program as part of their Team Involvement Circle activities. The Team calls itself TGIF, standing for The Great Industrial Facilities group.

The Energy Awareness campaign aims for savings of electrical power, along with savings of other resources. The Team has researched the cost of electrical power for our facility over the past two years, and is constantly evaluating means of improving efficiency and economy in our power usage.

To highlight their Energy Awareness campaign, the team is inviting all employees to participate in a "Guess the Electricity Bill" contest and also by making suggestions for how to save electricity.

Employees will have the opportunity to predict the actual cost of our electricity bill each month for three months -- December through February. There will be a winner of a U. S. Savings Bond in each monthly contest. (In case of multiple entries with the same answer, the winning entry will be drawn.)

In the "Suggestions for Saving Electricity" contest, each suggestion for how to save electricity will be evaluated and judged, and one Grand Prize Suggestion winner will be named at the end of the 90-days contest.

The Energy Awareness contest will be open to all employees for the billings of December, 1987, and January and February, 1988. Deadlines for submitting your entry each month are January 5, February 5, and March 5.

Boxes for your contest entry will be placed in the Cafeteria, the Breakaway snack area, and SPS. Each employee may enter once each month.

### HOW MUCH ENERGY?

Electrical power usage by Data Systems Division is a big expense item each month. Did you know that Data Systems Division spent \$931,900 on electrical power in 1985, and \$832,395 in 1986?

The TGIF Team found that the Division's electricity bill during 1985, 1986 and 1987, so far, has ranged from a monthly high of \$88,460 in November, 1985, to a monthly low of \$53,616 in October, 1987.

The TGIF Team's goal is to reduce electric power usage by 5% during the next 90 days, to be reflected in the March-April billing, after the close of the contest.

What can employees do to help conserve electricity?

- Turn off those unneeded lights.
- Remind your co-workers about conserving electricity.
- Look around your area for ways the TGIF Team could adjust power consumption.
- Send in your suggestion for how to save electricity on your monthly "Saving Electricity" Contest entry.



*Members of The Great Industrial Facilities Team: seated, Dave Richards, Dane Krug, Dan Konieczka, Edwin Watts; standing, Joe Smith, Bill Icely, Kay Cole, Carl Merritt, Rob Crawley, David Frye, Jeff Duncan, Mike Schlubatis, Kevin Garcia, and Facilitator Phil Luquette. Missing from this photo are Mike Eisenbise, Vic Letterman, Mike Mace, and Mike Matthews.*

Numerous power conservation steps have been taken by the Plant Engineering and Maintenance group. Some of the actions already taken have included:

- Adjusting lighting in areas where light is not critical.
- Photo cells installed to control parking lights & Cafeteria fans
- Energy Miser light bulbs and ballasts being installed.
- Installing watt-saver incandescent bulbs.
- Lowered some light fixtures to proper working levels.
- Conducted survey with Florida Power & Light -- implementing suggestions.

Additional energy saving ideas are under consideration by the Plant Engineering & Maintenance group. For example, they plan to install timers and heat exchangers on water tanks.

Energy saving is an ongoing project for all -- at home and at work. Want to help? Send in those suggestions!

### MAGAZINE ARTICLE PUBLISHED

A technical article describing FWSI Data Systems Division's development of hardware preprocessors (EMR model 8715) appeared in the September, 1987 issue of MICROWAVE SYSTEMS NEWS & COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY.

The article is entitled "The Evolution of Hardware Preprocessors in Telemetry Applications," by Mike O'Brien and Art Kelley, with collaboration by Jud Strook.

# WE HAVE THE BEST CONSIGNMENT SHOP YOU EVER SAW!

Do you enjoy browsing at your local Consignment Shop? Finding bargains...conserving your cash...saving some bucks and getting good value for your dollars?

How about a Consignment Inventory system, whereby electronics components can be drawn from an electronics supplier's inventory -- right here at Data Systems Division? And the company pays only for the actual electronics parts used, on a monthly basis.

Great idea? You bet!

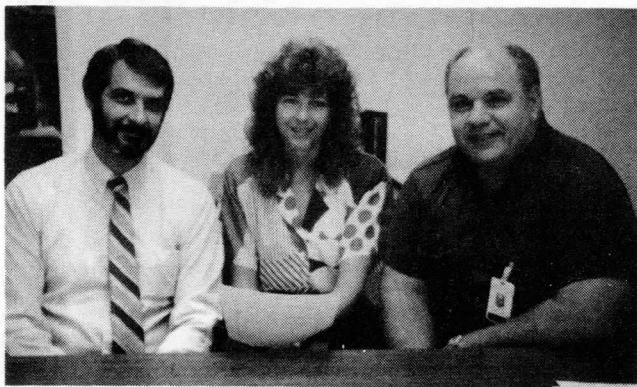
Certain electronics components, such as IC's (Integrated Circuits), capacitors, transistors, diodes, relays, switches, and potentiometers have lent themselves very well to a Consignment Inventory system here. We're talking about a thousand items!

The advantages are many: off-the-shelf convenience, fewer parts shortages, quantity buying at reduced prices, improved cash flow, and savings through reduced inventory.

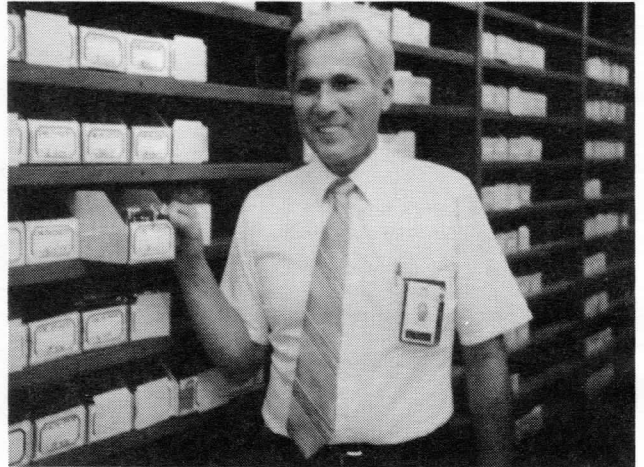
"We had to investigate the idea thoroughly. Could we find suppliers who would trust us to keep a substantial amount of their inventory in our facility -- on consignment -- and pay for the electronics parts monthly, as we use them?" explained Senior Buyer Dan Toler.

What about competitive bidding? How could we control and keep track of the inventory? What product lines could support advance ordering of parts in quantity, considering our fast-moving, ever changing technology? How about shelf life...quality...returning unused items...good accounting procedures?

"It took a lot of meetings before we could establish the procedures," said Senior Buyer Chris Hopkins. However, after much study and coordination, the Consignment Inventory team set up the system. Chris Hopkins, Dan Toler, Mike Lockwood, and Gary Bowers (all of Procurement), plus Bernie Cori (Stock Room) and John Kerwin (Materials) were major participants in the earliest phase. Vital concerns



*Mike Lockwood, Procurement Manager, and Senior Buyers Chris Hopkins and Dan Toler are actively involved in Consignment Inventory.*



*Bernie Cori, Warehousing Supervisor, with a portion of our Consignment Inventory in the Stock Room.*

about Quality Assurance were addressed by Tom Hackett, Larry Foster and Dave Walker. Dave Taylor, of Accounting, looked at the financial, billing and inventory treatment ramifications.

Thanks to this very smart, innovative idea, there have been substantial benefits to our business and to many employees since the Consignment Inventory project began in late 1984. Quantities of electronics parts now in the Stock Room's special locked Consignment Inventory section have mushroomed. The shelf space required for Consignment Inventory has doubled, and the monthly dollar volume has almost tripled. Dollar value is over \$1,000,000 annually.

Planners and Buyers are happy with improvements such as fewer shortages of IC's. The First In First Out (FIFO) practice is helpful in minimizing obsolescence problems for Quality Assurance.

While not all suppliers have the flexibility to cooperate with our Buyers in setting up a Consignment Inventory arrangement here, the Procurement Department continues to pursue the possibilities. Buyers seek competitive bids to achieve the best pricing, and also investigate other ideas to streamline operations while still emphasizing the delivery, quality and cost effectiveness needed in our business.

"All-in-all, we are really pleased at how well Consignment Inventory is working," Chris Hopkins and Dan Toler noted.

"It is a very effective program and has paid good dividends to the company," Procurement Manager Mike Lockwood said.

## CONGRATULATIONS !

DELLA BROWN (SPS) and her husband Troy are the proud parents of a baby boy, born on November 21 in Bradenton. Caleb Jordan weighed 9 lb. 6 oz. at birth.

## WANT QUICK ACTION ON YOUR INSURANCE CLAIM?

### HERE ARE SOME TIPS TO HELP YOU...

A representative of Connecticut General Life Insurance Company (CIGNA), administrators of our group medical insurance program, spent two days at our facility November 3 and 4, to help Data Systems employees with questions and problems concerning their insurance claims. Twenty-five employees had appointments with Helen Kearney, Assistant Manager of the Southwest Regional Medical Claim office for CIGNA.

"Clarifications and replies to questions are being sent directly to the employees," Benefits Administrator Alma Sanger said. To assist employees, here are some helpful hints on sending in your insurance claims.

1. Submit a completed claim form with your bill. One claim form per person, per calendar year, must be done. Be sure to SIGN & DATE the authorization line. Date of birth is essential. If you have additional bills during the year, write your Social Security number and our Account Number (0550021) on the bill, and submit to the CIGNA claims office.
2. Itemized bills are required. Payments cannot be made from "Balance Forward" statements.
3. Please submit a diagnosis on every bill sent in.
4. If you cover your spouse, and your spouse is also covered by his/her employer, claims for your spouse must be filed with the spouse's insurance company first. Once done, submit the bills and the other carrier's explanation of benefits to CIGNA for payment. If dependent children are covered by you AND by your spouse's insurance, the parent with the earliest BIRTH MONTH files with his/her carrier first.
5. For multiple surgeries, please make sure the doctor sends the operative report(s) along with the bills.
6. Submit bills every three months.

### QUESTIONS ABOUT YOUR INSURANCE CLAIMS?

Call directly to our Connecticut  
General Medical Benefit Analyst

**CAROLYN DEDERICK**  
Sherman, Texas

1-800-527-2171

(Employee's Social Security No.  
is required when you call.)

7. Provider's name and address needs to be on each bill. Also, put your Social Security number and our Account Number (0550021) on each bill sent in.

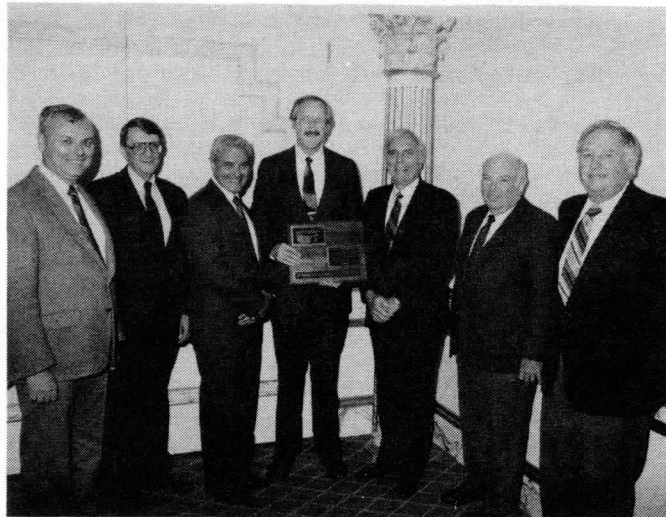
8. Make sure all bills are legible.

9. Instructions and Connecticut General's mailing address are on each claim form.

## RUDY DYCK NAMED 1987 FWSI KEY TECHNOLOGIST

Dr. Rudy Dyck was named Fairchild's 1987 Key Technologist at the fifth annual Fairchild Technical Symposium in Garden City, New York, on October 15. Dr. Dyck was honored for his outstanding technical achievements and contributions to Fairchild. He is General Manager of Fairchild's CCD (Charge Coupled Devices) Imaging Systems in Sunnyvale, Calif.

The Technical Symposium offers a forum for presentation of papers and exchange of technical information among FWSI technical personnel. It is expected that the next Fairchild Technical Symposium in Fall, 1988, will be held in the Sarasota area. Technical Director Bill Waggener is coordinating the planning for this important technical conference.



*Key Technologists honored at FWSI Seminar: Bill Waggener, (Data Systems, Sarasota - 1984 Key Technologist); Ken Hoagland, (Advanced Technology Development, FWSI, Syosset - 1985 Key Technologist); Thomas Palamenghi, Vice President and General Manager, Electro-Optical Systems, FWSI, Syosset; Rudy Dyck, 1987 Key Technologist (General Manager, CCD Imaging Systems, Sunnyvale, Calif.) Louis Pighi, President, FWSI, Syosset; Irving Hirschberg (Vice President, Technology Development, FWSI, Syosset - 1986 Key Technologist) and Ralph Wight (Technical Director, Electro-Optical Systems, FWSI, Syosset - 1983 Key Technologist).*

**ACCIDENTS HURT --  
SAFETY FEELS GOOD!**

## TWO MAJOR PROJECTS DEVELOPED BY MIS GROUP

Two major data processing projects involving much effort by our Management Information Systems group, and other personnel, are now in place and functioning well. They are:

1. A flexible Material Control and Quality Information System, developed in-house to replace AMAPS (Advanced Manufacturing, Accounting and Production System). This new Manufacturing Information System (described in the blue MIS insert in this issue of PULSE) is fully on-line and real-time. Material and Inspection actions are reflected in new balances and requirements as soon as they are entered on a CRT computer display terminal. The new system offers much flexibility to change and improve data handling as needed, on an ongoing basis.

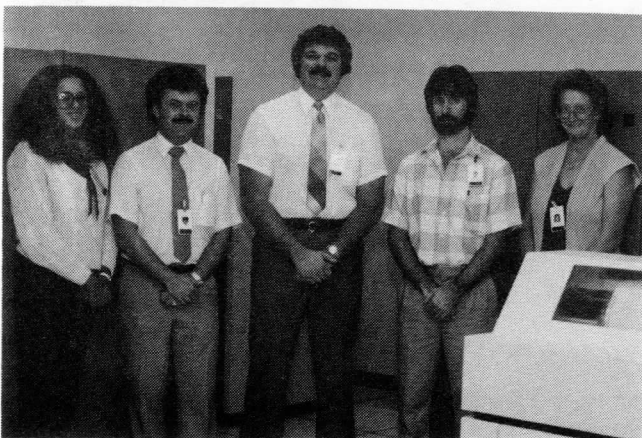
2. A new MVS/XA operating system, replacing the outdated DOS/VSE operating system. This new IBM MVS/XA provides improved performance and expanded capability for the IBM 4381 mainframe computer, which handles all of Data Systems Division's business information.

### MVS/XA OPERATING SYSTEM

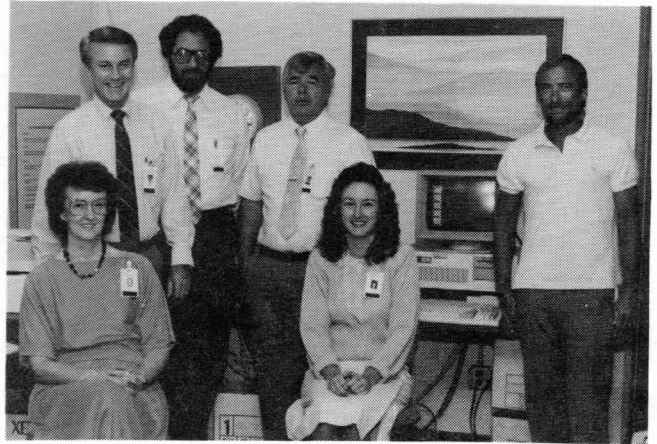
For eight months, the Technical Support team, headed by Bob Heaton, Jr., worked to convert over 600 on-line application programs, rewrite over 33,000 lines of job control, and convert over 350 master files. This conversion was needed to extend the useful life of the IBM 4381—adding two or three years to the life of the IBM 4381, based on current planned Division growth.

Since the new operating system went into effect on September 27, the performance improvement has been better than anticipated. With improved terminal response time, our daily on-line computer activity has increased from an average of 62,000 transactions per day to over 83,000 per day—a 33% increase.

"The benefits derived by Data Systems employees from these two projects are truly significant. The bottom line is that more Data Systems employees are getting more work done in an eight hour day with a lot less paper work," says Dale Dennis, Manager of our Management Information Systems group.



Technical Support & Computer Operations: Sandy Hatcher, Bill Kirby, Bob Heaton, Jr., Mike Rhodes, Tina Buss. Missing from this photo is Isabel Wetz.



Applications Development group in MIS: seated, Shirley Buerge and Peggy Long; standing, Dale Dennis, Ward Fry, Dick Frye and Dale Woodland.

## ORDER BOOKED FOR MORE TLQ-17A POWER SUPPLIES

A new order has been received to build 25 additional TLQ-17A Receiver and Transmitter Power Supplies for U. S. Army communications jamming equipment. This order is in addition to the 97 Transmitter and 108 Receiver Power Supplies currently in production in Sarasota for our sister company, Fairchild's Electronic Systems Division in Syosset, N. Y.

Value of this latest add-on order is \$500,000, with delivery starting in late 1988, Program Manager Frank Bloechl reports.

ESD in Syosset has the prime contract with the U. S. Army for AN/TLQ-17A communications jamming equipment. In this high reliability program, the component parts and drawings are received from Syosset, and are assembled and tested to Syosset drawings and specifications. Sarasota employees started working on the TLQ-17A power supplies in 1986.



Ray Thomas, of Test, with Nina Van Tassel and Candy Esber, of Assembly, display the AN/TLQ-17A Power Supplies produced here. Ray holds the Transmitter Power Supply and the cover for the Receiver Power Supply. Nina displays the Receiver Power Supply.

## FIFTEEN EMPLOYEES OBSERVE MAJOR SERVICE MILESTONES

Anniversary greetings go out to fifteen Data Systems employees who celebrate major service milestones with our company during November. Special congratulations to George Zimmerman, marking 30 years of service, and Sally Marlowe, completing a quarter of a century with us. Happy anniversary, folks!



Happy anniversary to: (foreground) Sally Marlowe (25 years), Chris Hopkins and Martha Eaton, both completing five years of service; back row: George Zimmerman (30 years), Kevin Lewis (5 years), Art Hallett (10 years), and Gene Flagg (5 years).



Celebrating service anniversaries: Judy Mewes, Rose Routsong, Pat Wetjen, and Candy Esber (all marking 10 years of service); back row: Stan Krosnicki, Vivian Owen, Dan Konieczka, and Joanie Odzic, all observing their 10th service anniversaries during November.



## SAFETY AWARENESS PAYS

Safety awareness and safe practices are your best bet to avoid painful injury. Accidents hurt. Be careful, and be safe!

## COCKPIT VOICE RECORDERS ORDERED FOR ATL AIRCRAFT

An order for 70 Cockpit Voice Recorder systems for the Avions Marcel Dassault (AMD) ATL-1 aircraft was logged recently after an intensive year-long sales effort during which our sister company, Schlumberger Industries, played an important role. The order is valued at over \$650,000 and calls for delivery of the CVR systems during 1988.

Barry Hawkins, Equipment Recorders International Sales Manager, gives much credit for this sale of the CVR systems to Fred Wheeler, of Product Support, who demonstrated the CVR readout capability and functions in France during the evaluation phase of the program, and to Patrice Marcilhacy, of Schlumberger Industries, France.

The ATL-1 is a twin turboprop maritime patrol aircraft in service with French, Italian, German, Pakistan and Netherlands defense forces.

"We hope for follow-on contracts from AMD later for the ATL-2 -- the next generation of this aircraft," Barry Hawkins said. "Like the ATL-1, the ATL-2 is able to perform minelaying, logistic support and passenger and freight missions as well as advanced Airborne Early Warning duties, air-sea rescue and patrol of offshore fishing and oil interests. We are studying the design of a special CVR Control Unit for adaptation to the ATL-2 and possible retrofit to the ATL-1."

## THIS IS A PULSE FIRST !

You are reading the first issue of PULSE which has been published via our new CAP System. CAP stands for Computer Aided Publishing. The new CAP System is a computer/electronic system which allows text and graphics to be "input" at one place (say your Personal Computer) and transmitted or scanned (via laser scanner) for entry into a publishing computer. The copy can then be edited, sized and rearranged as the text requires. You then have "camera ready" copy, suitable for the offset press for printing.

The CAP process will be especially helpful to Tech Writers, Graphic Arts, and for production of proposals, product literature, and a wide variety of our publishing needs.

Thanks go to Jim Horvath, Jon Wolf and other members of the Graphic Arts Department -- Photographers, Photo Lab, and Reprographics personnel -- who make it possible to bring you PULSE on a regular basis.

A special nod to the WRITER'S BLOCK Circle which was instrumental in documenting the need and helping to justify the company's investment in this major capital expenditure.

## LIFE INSURANCE REMINDER !

December is the month to decide if you wish to take additional life insurance under our VEBA plan. Call Alma Sanger in our Benefits Office for rates and additional information.

# HALLOWEEN COSTUMES ADD FUN DURING WORK BREAKS

Imaginative Halloween costumes added zest to the regular lunch periods and work breaks on October 30. Some of the employees posed for this photo in the Cafeteria to share their clever costume ideas with you.



Donald Duck (Regina Devine) and friends: Josefina Nunez, Susie Carrico, Welma Bohon, Dot Berner, Linda Feuer, Joan Stabenow, Liz Horton, Sharon

Krueger, Cheryl Carter, Teresa Smith, Jackie Newberry. Barely visible in back row: Brenda Eberhardt, Darrell Powell and Bev Still.

## NEW ENVIRONMENTAL LAB CONSTRUCTION UNDERWAY

A new Environmental Testing Lab, under the direction of our Quality Assurance organization, will soon be installed in the area near the Mail Room and Machine Shop. Construction is now underway for a facility to house a new computer-controlled Vibration System for random vibration testing, and a sine vibration option will be added in 1988.

Equipment to be installed in the Environmental Lab includes a new temperature/humidity chamber, of 82 cubic feet, which will give us two 82-cubic-foot chambers, plus a small temperature/humidity chamber of 5.5 cubic feet.

The new Environmental Lab will enable Data Systems to perform most vibration testing in-house, rather than having to go to outside facilities for some critical tests. Luis Sandoval and Robin Speidel, of Quality Assurance, are most directly involved in the Environmental Lab operations. Completion of the facility is scheduled for January.

## \$ FOR HOLIDAY SHOPPING ?

On November 18 the Fairchild Sarasota Credit Union's Christmas Club share accounts paid out \$35,000 to 80 savers at Data Systems. The Credit Union's convenient Christmas Club account offers employees an easy way to save for holiday spending, or other special occasions.

For information about signing up for a 1988 Christmas Club account, just call your friendly Credit Union at Ext. 5535. Payroll deductions enable you to save before you spend!

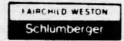
## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Dec. 16 - APICS - "Personal Investment Strategy," Eugene Richardson, Paine Webber. Brenton Reef, 5:30 happy hour; 6:30 dinner; 7:30 program. For details, call Val Fordham, Ext. 5588.





**FAIRCHILD WESTON  
SYSTEMS INC.**



FAIRCHILD WESTON SYSTEMS INC  
DATA SYSTEMS DIVISION  
POST OFFICE BOX 3041  
SARASOTA, FL 33578

**M**ANAGEMENT  
**I**NFORMATION  
**S**ERVICES

BY DALE DENNIS, CDP

## DING, DONG, THE WITCH IS DEAD!!

**OBITUARY:** ON SEPTEMBER 27, 1987, DSD'S COMSERV AMAPS INFORMATION SYSTEM EXPIRED! IT HAD LED A STRUGGLING EXISTENCE SINCE APRIL 1978, BUT FINALLY SUCCUMBED TO A DEVASTATING ATTACK BY A FLEXIBLE, IN-HOUSE DEVELOPED MATERIAL CONTROL AND QUALITY INFORMATION SYSTEM.

Yes, the system formally known as the Advanced Manufacturing, Accounting, and Production System (AMAPS), which was purchased from Comserv Corporation and installed in 1978, was replaced by a new in-house developed Manufacturing Information System. The inflexibility of AMAPS has constrained DSD from having timely, comprehensive manufacturing and quality information for nearly ten years.

The new System encompasses Material Requirements Planning (MRP), Material Control (MCS), Shop Floor Control (SFC), Bill of Material (BMS), Standard Cost (SCS), Inspection Maintenance (IMS), and Quality Information (QIS).

Several thousand hours of review, planning, design, programming, testing, implementation and training went into the new system modules. The development effort was accomplished by the MIS Applications Programming team, led by Project Leader Dick Frye, with extensive user support from key individuals in Production Control, Stockroom, Manufacturing Engineering, Production Assembly, Test, Purchasing, Quality Engineering, Quality Assurance, Finance, and EDC.

The new system is fully on-line and real time. Minute-by-minute material and inspection actions are reflected in new balances and requirements as soon as they are entered on a CRT display terminal.

The former system required much computer processing at the end of the day to update balances and process movements. Data available on terminals at the beginning of the new work day was often obsolete by mid morning. The required processing often prevented Production from taking necessary action when it was required.

Advantages of the new system include the following:

- Unplanned material requests, i.e. individual requests not planned through Master Scheduling and MRP, are entered on CRT terminals and routed directly to the stockroom for "picking." If the material is available, the material will generally be

waiting for pickup by the time the requestor reaches the stockroom window. If the material is not immediately available, the requestor is notified of the "earliest availability date." No longer is it necessary to stand by the Stockroom window and wait for service.

- Material shortages are minimized by the new System since unplanned requests are analyzed for the "earliest availability date" and the Stockroom is not permitted to issue the material prior to this date unless specifically approved by the Planner. This prevents issuing material required for planned shop orders and creating shortages.

- Discrepancy & Disposition Reports (DDR's) are initiated, communicated, dispositioned, and material is transferred via CRT terminal, eliminating volumes of paperwork formerly required. Manufacturing Engineers (ME's) may review pending DDR's in the Material Review Area (MRA) via CRT terminal to determine requirements for their services.

- Material failure and dispositioning data is captured on CRT data terminals instead of paper. Failure analysis, trends, and quality costs may be readily extracted from mainframe data.

- MRP Planning Action items are presented on CRT data terminals, thereby eliminating 1000 to 2000 pages of Planning Action Reports weekly.

- Capacity Planning and Workload Distribution are available in real time on CRT displays. Items exceeding prespecified boundary limits since the last printed report or since yesterday's view are highlighted.

- Work orders may be initiated and released to the production floor in a matter of minutes, thereby expediting rework and repairs.

- Real time Supply/Demand Analysis is presented on CRT displays reflecting up-to-the-minute material situations.

- Consignment Inventory is tracked from order initiation, through receipt into consignment, and

subsequent transfer to stock. Tracking is by purchase order and item number.

- ME's may "mass change," i.e. change all occurrences of a specific item, in the shop floor Standard Routing Master, thereby saving hours of search and update time.

Flexibility is the most significant advantage of the new System. The AMAPS system was purchased and the design was very complex - a change at one location could cause significant errors in other

locations. DSD's policy was to not touch the AMAPS software unless absolutely necessary.

Since the new system was developed in-house, the flexibility to make changes affords Manufacturing and Finance significant opportunities to take advantage of new techniques, conform to Government imposed contractual requirements, and/or evaluate the impact of new methodologies.

Use of the new System is opening the door to improved methods for expediting the manufacturing process and monitoring the quality of our products.

## NEW LIFE FOR AN OLD SYSTEM

On September 27, 1987, an extension of life was granted to the IBM 4381 mainframe that handles all of DSD's business information. The outdated DOS/VSE Operating System of the mainframe was shut down and a new MVS/XA operating System came to life. MVS/XA is IBM's new, improved performance, expanded capability operating system for 4381's and larger mainframes.

This was not an overnight job! For eight months, the Technical Support team, headed by Bob Heaton Jr., had been working feverishly to convert over 600 on-line application programs, rewrite over 33,000 lines of job control, and convert over 350 master files. Captured statistics showed 12,840 jobs were run to install system software, compile programs, and test MVS operations during the eight months. MVS versions of all purchased non-IBM software had to be installed and tested, some being only in the vendor development stage for MVS operation. All of this was taking place while the Applications Development team was in the process of replacing AMAPS (see related article, this publication) .

The conversion was required to extend the useful life of the IBM 4381. Without MVS/XA, DSD would have been looking for a replacement mainframe late in

1988 in order to accommodate planned new developments such as Project Management, Configuration Data Management, Division Resource Planning, networking to the DEC environment, etc. The MVS/XA Operating System opens the door for extension of the on-line business systems to nearly all DSD managerial, professional, and support personnel. It extends the useful life of the IBM 4381 an additional two to three years with the current planned Division growth.

All of the Tech Support and Operations personnel had to take special training classes for MVS/XA knowledge.

The performance improvement has been better than anticipated - on-line terminal response time has been cut in half, the speed of nightly processing has improved by 50%, and the inefficient "thrashing" of the processor experienced under DOS/VSE has been eliminated. This has allowed the daily on-line activity to increase from an average count of 62,000 transactions per day to over 83,000 per day, a 33% increase.

The benefit? More DSD employees getting more work done in an 8 hour day with a lot less paper!

ENERGY SAVINGS AWARENESS CONTEST

Sponsored by The Great Industrial Facilities Team

HELP SAVE ELECTRICITY -- JOIN THE POWER SAVERS!

PART I -- I PREDICT THE DECEMBER DATA SYSTEMS ELECTRICITY BILL WILL BE:

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

FOR YOUR INFORMATION, PREVIOUS ELECTRICITY BILLS WERE:

Dec., 1985	\$78,543.82
Dec., 1986	\$79,831.09

Please drop your entry in the Contest Box by January 5, 1988

(MONTHLY WINNER WILL RECEIVE A \$50 U. S. SAVINGS BOND.)



SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_

COST CENTER \_\_\_\_\_ TEL. EXT. \_\_\_\_\_

-----  
PART II -- ENERGY SAVINGS AWARENESS CONTEST

MY SUGGESTION FOR SAVING ELECTRICITY IS:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_

COST CENTER \_\_\_\_\_ TEL. \_\_\_\_\_

ONE PART II GRAND PRIZE SUGGESTION WINNER WILL BE SELECTED AT THE END OF THE 90-DAY CONTEST.

\*\*\*\*\*

(EMPLOYEES MAY ENTER CONTEST ONCE EACH MONTH. ENTER EITHER PART I OR PART II -- OR BOTH PARTS.)