

Microwire

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CCD demonstrates new ability

CCD technology proved on January 8 that it is not all imaging and show.

At a press conference for members of the technical and business press, the CCD Department demonstrated that CCD has more than visual imaging capability, it has memory, too.

Charge coupled device technology, developed at Fairchild, was first used in image sensing applications such as the miniature television camera manufactured by the Fairchild Space and Defense Systems Division. Image sensing devices have been in full scale production in CCD facilities in Palo Alto for the past two years.

During 1974, Research and Development harnessed CCD's unique features to develop memory devices that offer a significant advancement in density for solid state memories.

The first in this family of devices, called the CCD450, is slated for application in terminal buffers, video displays, and electronic switching systems in data communications networks.

The memories can be used individually to provide the brain in terminals such as airline reservations read-out equipment or a number of CCD450 devices can be com-

bined to provide data storage and read-out for larger, more complex information systems.

In the reservations terminal application, the CCD450 would be located in a terminal at the reservations desk. Airline personnel using the terminal keyboard could call specific passenger information from the central reservations file. The information would enter the CCD450 and be displayed on the terminal screen as long as it is needed. Once the data is no longer useful, the CCD450 would be erased to await further requests for other ticketing and reservation information. A read/modify/write mode would allow airline personnel to enter reservation changes directly from the desk terminal into the central computer file.

The CCD450 offers 9216 bits of serial storage capacity organized into a format of 1024 words by 9 bits. Information is contained in the CCD memory by the absence or presence of bundles of charge, representing the 1s and 0s in the computer binary language.

The CCD450, the first charge coupled device memory product to go into large scale production, was developed by the CCD Department under the direction of Gil Amelio.



Almost 2,000 pounds of turkey were served by Fairchild managers and officers on December 18, 19 and 20 in the company's cafeterias on the Peninsula. The turkeys were the entree for the holiday luncheon attended by more than 5,000 employees and sponsored by the Employees' Activities Association and the company.



Isaac Ruiz, known to television viewers as Mando on NBC-TV's "Chico and the Man" series, is better known as cousin "Butch" to Armeda Mayorga (left), senior clerk, Transistor Division, and Dora Davila, assembler B, Automotive SBU, and nephew "Butch" to his aunt, Alice Morris, work leader in Power Assembly. Isaac visited his aunt and cousins during a recent trip to Mountain View, his home town. Seizing the opportunity to introduce their famous relative to co-workers, Armeda, Dora and Alice took Isaac on a tour of their work areas.



CCD Memory team: (front, 1. to r.) Gene Held, Dale Means, Dr. Ramesh Varshney, Dennis Stoscher, Scott Keller, Tony Crossley and (back, 1. to r.) Ben Choy, Ron Hopwood, Alan Keen, Terry Christensen, Linda Adams and Al Watkins.