SYSTEMS&PERIPHERALS

Supports IBM Native Mode

Memorex Subsystem 3350-Compatible

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SANTA CLARA, Calif. – The 3650 direct access disk storage subsystem from Memorex Corp. is a device that is plug-to-plug compatible with the IBM 3350 and offers software support not available from IBM, according to a Memorex spokesman.

Designed for IBM 370/135 through 370/168 systems, the disk subsystem uses Winchester-type technology; the media, read/write heads and circuitry are all located in a removable unit, the firm said.

In addition to standard IBM software support, Memorex optionally supports the 3650 under DOS/VS in all modes of operation and offers OS/370 Native Mode support, a capability only recently announced by IBM, a spokeswoman said.
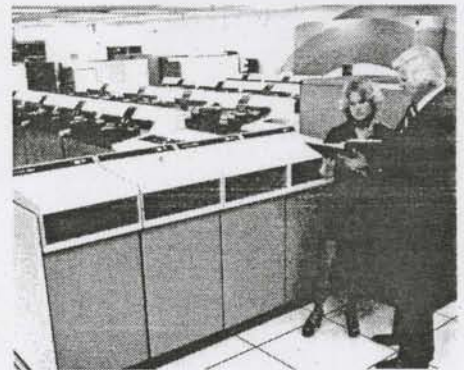
The subsystem consists of four models: the 3650 direct access storage model; the 3653 storage module and controller; 3654 storage module and alternate controller; and the 3674 control unit.

The 3650 dual-spindle storage module can contain 635M- or 317.5M-byte/spindle with a transfer rate of 1.198M byte/sec, Memorex said. An optional fixed head allows zero seek time for 1.14M bytes of the 317.5M byte/spindle.

A typical subsystem includes a 3653 storage module and controller and three 3650 storage modules. Users may substitute the 3654 storage module and alternate controller for one of the 3650s to provide duplicate control electronics for string protection, Memorex noted.

With the 3674 storage control unit, users can attach one to four 3653 modules and controllers and up to 12 3650 modules, allowing one 3674 to control up to four strings of drives with eight drive/string, the company added.

Memorex 3650

The Memorex 3653 can be directly attached to the IBM 370 CPU through either the 3674 storage control unit or the IBM 3820-2 storage control unit.

Memorex and IBM drives can be intermixed when attached to the IBM controller on a string-by-string basis, but IBM drives are not supported on the Memorex controller, the spokesman added.

At the time of installation, users can select either Native Mode, Memorex 3670 compatibility mode or Memorex 3675 compatibility mode under OS/VS; under DOS/VS, only the 3670 compatibility mode is available.

Native Mode provides a capacity of 317.5M byte/spindle; 3670 compatibility mode provides 100M byte/spindle; and the 3675 mode provides 200M byte/spindle, Memorex said.

The subsystem will be available in the second quarter of 1977. Memorex has not yet released prices for the 3650, a spokesman said, but they will be "competitive."

Memorex is at San Thomas at Central Expressway, Santa Clara, Calif. 95052.