

NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release
ALT-182

NEW TERMINAL FROM ALTOS

**Features 14-inch, tiltable, 132-column screen;
programmable function keys; smooth scrolling**

SAN JOSE, Calif., May 18 -- Altos Computer Systems has introduced a high-performance computer terminal optimized for use with its extensive line of 8 and 16-bit multi-user microcomputers. The terminal is ideal for OEMs and system integrators already working with Altos equipment.

The new Altos II Smart Terminal is tailored for business applications, offering such advanced features as large, readable 14-inch screen with wide-format 132-column capability, fast two-page memory, and programmable function keys. It features dot-by-dot smooth scrolling, ergonomically designed tilting display, detached keyboard with 18-key keypad, and hidden screen attributes.

According to Mike Skelton, Altos director of marketing, "This is the first terminal we have built in-house--an aesthetic and functional companion to our 8- and 16-bit systems. Combined with our increasing emphasis on application software support, the Altos II Smart Terminal is another step in providing users and systems integrators with complete business solutions."

VT-100 emulation

The Altos II terminal has been tailored for business use. The screen features a choice of 80 or 132 characters per line to accommodate wide-formatted text, and smooth vertical scrolling to ensure ease-of-reading. In addition to the normal display, the

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terminal offers horizontal and vertical split-screens. Three character sizes together with hidden attributes (half-intensity protect, underline, reverse, blinking, and blank) allow application programmers to design screens precisely.

The unit provides VT-100 emulation and features 16 programable function keys (32 with shift), controlled by the user or application program, that perform commonly used terminal commands and avoid cumbersome escape and control sequences. The keyboard also features tactile feedback.

An "application mode" enabled by the host computer allows each key in the numeric keypad to output a unique escape code, thereby doubling as special function keys. In addition, by pressing a single key the user can also enter into a local four-function calculator mode.

The terminal features two pages of memory that minimize time-consuming disk swaps, and four communication modes (full and half duplex; local and block). A self-test at power-on checks internal storage and keyboard functions while another provides comprehensive diagnostic assistance to field technicians.

Available the third quarter of 1983, the Altos II Smart Terminal is priced at \$995.

Altos is a leading manufacturer of multi-user, networking microcomputer systems for business, science, and industry including the new Altos 586 16-bit microcomputer, which accommodates from five to eight users. Over 30,000 systems are installed worldwide.

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