



Ratings Summary—Word Processing Packages

Data Decisions has developed a precise methodology to evaluate mainstream microcomputer software with an orientation to the corporate user. With this methodology we are able to quantify our results and therefore rank our findings. Our analysts use and rate each package just as a corporate end user would.

What follows on the next several pages are graphical representations of the rankings of our findings for word processing packages. The use of the keys is a reminder of the importance of our Hands-On Evaluation method of evaluating software. On the page facing the rankings is an accompanying dot chart which indicates salient features of each of the packages. The dot chart also indicates the unit price of the package, the operating systems supported, the memory required for operation, if the product is copy protected, the date of product introduction, and the number of installations.

A full description of our results and an expert evaluation of each product is included in Volume 2 of this publication. These evaluations are filed alphabetically by vendor and start with Filing Sequence number 810. Behind the 800 tab are two documents, the first of which lists each product we evaluated alphabetically by category of software. For example, all of the Word Processors, all of the Data Management packages, etc are listed. The second document provides a detailed description of the methodology our analysts used to evaluate each of the different types of software. For those users who want a more exhaustive list from which to choose, you are asked to turn to our microcomputer software survey section behind the 600 tab in Volume 1. In this section software is divided by category and brief summaries appear for most of the popular software used in the corporate environment.

WORD PROCESSING SPECIFICATIONS

The following specifications are listed for each word processor evaluated:

■ RETAIL UNIT PRICE

This states the single-unit retail price of the product as quoted by the vendor.

■ FEATURES

Spelling Checker • indicates that a spelling correction utility is integrated with the package.

Mail List Merging • indicates that a mail list merge facility used to maintain small lists is integrated in the package.

Footnotes • indicates that the product can insert footnotes in relation to their referenced text.

Index/Table of Contents • indicates that the package has an integrated facility to generate an index or a table of contents.

Background Printing • indicates that the package permits the user to work on other tasks while the system is printing a document.

Multiple Document Editing • permits the editing of more than one document either through the use of windows or through document selection features.

Windows/Split Screens • refers to the capability of the software to display more than one file at a time on the screen.

Function Keys • shows that the package makes use of the Function/Special keys for operation.

Control Sequences • indicates that the package uses the Control Keys as commands.

Undo Function • indicates that the package has the ability to put back a section of text which has been deleted.

■ OPERATING SYSTEMS SUPPORTED

This category has 4 entries which include the 4 most popular common operating systems: PC-DOS, MS-DOS, CP/M-80, and CP/M-86. A final category entitled "Other" indicates that the

package runs on an operating system not listed, such as TRS-DOS, Apple DOS, UCSD p-System, or a UNIX variation such as XENIX, to name a few. To determine which version of the operating system the package runs on or to find which "Other" operating system supports the package please refer to the full-length, in-depth report in Volume 2.

■ MEMORY REQUIRED

This section states the minimum memory required to operate the package. In some cases a range of memory is indicated; usually this occurs if the package runs on more than one operating system and each operating system requires a different amount of memory. Please refer to the full-length, in-depth report in Volume 2.

■ COPY PROTECTED

This indicates that the package has some sort of copy protection scheme which prevents the software from being duplicated.

■ FIRST DELIVERY

This date indicates the year that the software package was shipped.

■ NUMBER OF INSTALLATIONS

This section states the approximate number of software packages that have been sold. In some cases the software developers are either not certain of the number of packages sold or prefer not to publish the information. In those cases, an INA (Information Not Available) is indicated.

FOOTNOTES:

INA—Information not available from the vendor.

NA—Not applicable.

VRBL—Variable.

UNL—Unlimited.

Disk—Disk limits the size of the file.

Memory—Memory limits the size of the file.

Screen—Screen size limits the size of the file.

NC—No charge.



Ratings Summary—Word Processing Packages

OVERALL AVERAGE RATING	PRODUCT NAME VENDOR NAME, ADDRESS, TELEPHONE	ENVIRONMENT	DOCUMENTATION	FUNCTIONALITY	EASE OF USE	SUPPORT	SYSTEM INTERFACE	VENDOR EXPERIENCE
	SPELLBINDER Lexisoft, Inc.; Box 1378, Davis, CA 95617 • 916-758-3630							
	WORDVISION Bruce & James Program Publishers, Inc.; 680 Beach Street, Suite 357, San Francisco, CA 94109 • 415-775-8400							
	NEW WORD Rocky Mountain Software Systems; 2150 John Glenn Drive, Concord, CA 94520 • 800-832-2244							
	PERFECT WRITER Perfect Software; 702 Harrison Street, Berkeley, CA 94710 • 800-222-4222							
	WORDPERFECT Satellite Software International; 288 West Center Street, Orem, UT 84057 • 801-224-8554							
	MULTIMATE MultiMate International; 52 Oakland Avenue, North, East Hartford, CT 06108 • 203-522-2116							
	FINALWORD Mark of the Unicorn, Inc.; 222 Third Street, Cambridge, MA 02142 • 617-576-2760							
	PFS:WRITE Software Publishing Corp; 1901 Landings Drive, Mountain View, CA 94043 • 415-962-8910							
	MICROSOFT WORD Microsoft Corp; 10700 Northup Way, Bellevue, WA 98004 • 206-828-8080							
	PEACHTEXT Peachtree Software, Inc.; 3445 Peachtree Road, NE, Atlanta, GA 30326 • 404-239-3000							
	PERSONAL EDITOR IBM Corp; P.O. Box 1328-W, Boca Raton, FL 33432 • 800-447-4700							
	BENCHMARK Metasoft Corp; 6509 West Frye Road, Chandler, AZ 85224 • 602-961-0003							
	WYLBUR/PC Online Business Systems; 115 Sansome Street, San Francisco, CA 94104 • 415-391-9555							
	LIST & LABEL MANAGER Peachtree Software, Inc.; 3445 Peachtree Road, NE, Atlanta, GA 30326 • 404-239-3165							
	PALANTIR Palantir Software; 3400 Montrose Boulevard, Suite 718, Houston, TX 77006 • 800-368-3797							

Ratings Summary — Word Processing Packages



RETAIL UNIT PRICE (\$)	FEATURES Spelling Checker Mail List Merging Footnotes Index/Table of Contents Background Printing Multiple Document Editing Windows/Split Screens Automatic Reformatting Menus Function Keys Control Sequences Undo Function	OPERATING SYSTEMS SUPPORTED PC-DOS MS-DOS CP/M-80 CP/M-86 Other	MEMORY REQUIRED (Bytes)	COPY PROTECTED	FIRST DELIVERY	NUMBER OF INSTALLATIONS
495	• — • — — — • — • • • —	• • • • •	48K-128K	No	1978	15,000
80	— — — — — • • • • • — •	• • — — —	96K	No	1983	30,000
249	— • — — — — — • • • • •	• • • • — •	64K-96K	Yes	1983	INA
495	• • • • • — • • • • • • • •	• • • — —	64K	No	1982	INA
495	• • • • — • — — • • • • — —	• — — — —	128K	No	1982	40,000
495	• • • — • — — — • • • • • —	• • — — —	128K	No	1983	INA
300	— — • • — • • • • • • • • •	• • • • —	64K-128K	No	1982	5,000
145	— — — — — • • • — — —	• • — — —	128K	Yes	1983	300,000
395	— — • — — — • • • — • • • •	• — — — —	128K	Yes	1983	INA
250	— — — — • — — — • • — — —	• • • — —	64K-128K	No	1980	100,000+
60	— — — — — • • • • • • • • •	• — — — —	64K	No	1982	INA
350	• • • — — — — • • • — — —	• • • • —	64K-128K	No	1982	100,000+
500	— • • — • — — — • — • • —	• • — — —	80K	No	1977	135+
250	— — — — — • • — — — —	• • • • •	56K-128K	No	1981	100,000+
395	• • — — — • — — • • — — —	• • — — —	128K	No	1982	5,000+



Ratings Summary—Word Processing Packages

OVERALL AVERAGE RATING	PRODUCT NAME VENDOR NAME, ADDRESS, TELEPHONE	ENVIRONMENT	DOCUMENTATION	FUNCTIONALITY	EASE OF USE	SUPPORT	SYSTEM INTERFACE	VENDOR EXPERIENCE
6.6	APPLE WRITER Apple Computer, Inc.; 20525 Mariani Avenue, Cupertino, CA 95014 • 408-996-2531	8.0	10	5.5	7.0	5.0	3.2	7.5
6.5	SUPERWRITER SORCIM Corp; 2310 Lundy Avenue, San Jose, CA 95131 • 408-942-1727	7.0	7.0	7.0	6.0	8.5	1.5	8.5
6.3	BENCHMARK MAIL LIST Metasoft Corp; 6509 West Frye Road, Suite 12, Chandler, AZ 85224 • 602-961-0003	5.0	6.0	6.0	7.0	8.0	4.0	8.0
6.1	STARINDEX MicroPro International Corp; 33 San Pablo Avenue, San Rafael, CA 94903 • 415-499-1200	7.0	5.0	9.0	5.0	3.0	-	7.5
6.0	WORDSTAR MicroPro International Corp; 33 San Pablo Avenue, San Rafael, CA 94903 • 415-499-1200	7.0	7.0	7.0	5.0	3.0	4.0	9.0
6.0	EASYWRITER II Information Unlimited Software, Inc.; 2401 Marinship Way, Sausalito, CA 94965 • 415-331-6700	7.0	5.0	7.0	6.2	5.0	5.0	7.0
5.9	VISIWORD VisiCorp; 2895 Zanker Road, San Jose, CA 95134 • 408-946-9000	6.0	9.8	5.0	7.0	5.0	2.5	6.0
5.7	SAMNA WORD II SAMNA Corp; 2700 Northeast Expressway, Suite C-1200, Atlanta, GA 30345 • 404-321-5006	4.6	6.8	7.8	5.8	6.2	5.6	3.0
5.7	LETTER PERFECT LJK Inc; 7852 Big Bend Boulevard, St. Louis, MO 63119 • 314-962-1855	8.4	6.8	6.5	6.0	2.0	5.0	5.0
5.6	BANK STREET WRITER Broderbund Software Inc; 17 Paul Drive, San Rafael, CA 94903 • 415-479-1170	9.0	7.5	3.0	7.5	3.0	2.0	7.0
5.2	SPELLSTAR MicroPro International; 33 San Pablo Avenue, San Rafael, CA 94903 • 415-499-1200	5.0	5.0	6.2	5.8	3.0	2.5	9.0
5.2	PIE WRITER Hayden Software Co; 600 Suffolk Street, Lowell, MA 01853 • 617-937-0200	8.0	5.0	6.2	4.0	4.8	4.8	4.0
4.8	SELECT Select Information Systems; 919 Sir Francis Drake Boulevard, Kentfield, CA 94904 • 415-459-4003	8.2	8.2	7.2	3.0	3.0	2.0	2.0
4.8	MAILMERGE MicroPro International, 33 San Pablo Avenue, San Rafael, CA 94903 • 415-499-1200	5.0	5.0	6.0	5.5	3.0	2.0	7.0
3.2	QWERTY HFK Software, Inc; Old Danbury Road, Danbury, NH 03230 • 617-259-0059	5.0	3.5	3.5	4.0	2.0	3.0	2.0



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RETAIL UNIT PRICE (\$)	FEATURES Spelling Checker Mail List Merging Footnotes Index/Table of Contents Background Printing Multiple Document Editing Windows/Split Screens Automatic Reformatting Menus Function Keys Control Sequences Undo Function	OPERATING SYSTEMS SUPPORTED PC-DOS MS-DOS CP/M-80 CP/M-86 Other	MEMORY REQUIRED (Bytes)	COPY PROTECTED	FIRST DELIVERY	NUMBER OF INSTALLATIONS
195	— • — — — — • • — • •	— — — — •	64K	Yes	1979	INA
295	• • — — • — — • • • • —	• • • • —	64K	No	1983	INA
250	— • — — — — — • • — —	• • • • —	64K-128K	No	1980	15,000
195	— — — • — — — — • • — —	• • • • —	48K	No	1983	100,000
495	— — — — • — — — • • • —	• • • • —	64K-256K	No	1979	800,000
350	— — — — • — — — • • — •	• • — — —	64K-128K	No	1983	INA
375	• • — — — — • • • • — •	• • — — —	192K	No	1983	15,000
450	— • • — • • • • — • — —	• • — — —	256K	Yes	1982	3,000
105	• — — — — — — • • • —	— — — — •	48K	Yes	1979	10,000
299-399	— — — — • • • — • • •	• • — — •	64K-128K	No	1982	INA
250	• — — — — — — • — • —	• • • • —	64K-256K	No	1981	INA
150	— • — — • • • • • • • •	• • — — •	64K-128K	No	1983	INA
495	• • — — • — — • — • — •	• • — — —	128K	No	1981	INA
225	— • — — — — — • — — —	• • • • —	64K-256K	No	1980	INA
325	— • — — — — • • • • —	• • — — —	64K	Yes	1983	800



Ratings Summary — Spreadsheets, Finance & Planning Packages

Data Decisions has developed a precise methodology to evaluate mainstream microcomputer software with an orientation to the corporate user. With this methodology we are able to quantify our results and therefore rank our findings. Our analysts use and rate each package just as a corporate end user would.

What follows on the next several pages are graphical representations of the rankings of our findings for spreadsheet software. The use of the keys is a reminder of the importance of our Hands-On Evaluation method of evaluating software. On the page facing the rankings is an accompanying dot chart which indicates salient features of each of the packages. The dot chart also indicates the unit price of the package, the operating systems supported, the memory required for operation, if the product is copy protected, the date of product introduction, and the number of installations.

A full description of our results and an expert evaluation of each product is included in Volume 2 of this publication. These evaluations are filed alphabetically by vendor and start with Filing Sequence number 810. Behind the 800 tab are two documents, the first of which lists each product we evaluated alphabetically by category of software. For example, all of the Word Processors, all of the Data Management packages, etc are listed. The second document provides a detailed description of the Methodology our analysts used to evaluate each of the different types of software. For those users who want a more exhaustive list from which to choose, you are asked to turn to our microcomputer software survey section behind the 600 tab in Volume 1. In this section software is divided by category and brief summaries appear for most of the popular software used in the corporate environment.

SPREADSHEET/FINANCE & PLANNING SPECIFICATIONS

The following specifications are listed for each spreadsheet, or finance and planning package evaluated:

■ RETAIL UNIT PRICE

This states the single-unit retail price of the product as quoted by the vendor.

■ NUMBER OF ROWS

This entry states the number of one of the coordinates used to reference cells in a spreadsheet. The number indicates the maximum number of row entries.

■ NUMBER OF COLUMNS

This number indicates the maximum number of column entries permitted by the package.

■ FINANCIAL FUNCTIONS

In every spreadsheet or financial planning package either financial or statistical functions or a combination of the two are provided with the software. Two of the most common financial functions are listed: net present value and internal rate of return; a third column entitled "Other" will indicate that other functions such as depreciation, amortization, discounting, etc may be available. The user is referred to the specific full-length, in-depth evaluation in Volume 2 for more details.

Net Present Value • indicates that the function to calculate net present value is available.

Internal Rate of Return • indicates that the function to calculate internal rate of return is available.

Other • indicates that financial functions other than net present value or internal rate of return are available with the package.

■ STATISTICAL FUNCTIONS

In every spreadsheet or financial planning package either statistical or financial functions or a combination of the two are provided with the software. Several of the more common statistical functions listed in this specifications chart are: Average, Minimum, Maximum, Count, Sum, and Standard Deviation. A last column entitled "Other" indicates that other functions such as regression analysis, analysis of variance, chi square, etc may be available. The user is referred to the specific full-length, in-depth evaluation in Volume 2 for more details.

Average • indicates that the function to calculate averages is available with the package.

Minimum • indicates that the function to calculate the minimum value in a range is available with the package.

Maximum • indicates that the function to calculate the maximum value in a range is available with the package.

Count • states that the function to count entries or to count the number of elements in a series is available with the package.

Sum • indicates that the function which totals a series of numbers is available with the package.

Standard Deviation • shows that the function to calculate standard deviation is provided with the package.

Other • indicates that other statistical functions such as regression analysis, analysis of variance, etc are available with the software.

■ OPERATING SYSTEMS SUPPORTED

This category has 4 entries which include the 4 most popular and common operating systems: PC-DOS, MS-DOS, CP/M-80, and CP/M-86. A final category entitled "Other" indicates that the package runs on an operating system not listed, such as TRS-DOS, Apple DOS, UCSD p-System, or a UNIX variation such as XENIX, to name a few. To determine which version of the operating system the package runs on or to find which "Other" operating system supports the package please refer to the full-length, in-depth report in Volume 2.

■ MEMORY REQUIRED

This section states the minimum memory required to operate the package. In some cases a range of memory is indicated; usually this occurs if the package runs on more than one operating system and each operating system requires a different amount of memory. Please refer to the full-length, in-depth report in Volume 2.

■ COPY PROTECTED

This indicates that the package has some sort of copy protection scheme which prevents the software from being duplicated.

■ FIRST DELIVERY

This date indicates the year that the software package was shipped.

■ NUMBER OF INSTALLATIONS

This section states the approximate number of software packages that have been sold. In some cases the software developers are either not certain of the number of packages sold or prefer not to publish the information. In those cases, an INA (Information Not Available) is indicated.

FOOTNOTES:

INA — Information not available from the vendor.

NA — Not applicable.

VRBL — Variable.

UNL — Unlimited.

Disk — Disk limits the size of the file.

Memory — Memory limits the size of the file.

Screen — Screen size limits the size of the file.

NC — No charge.



Ratings Summary—Spreadsheets, Finance & Planning Packages

OVERALL AVERAGE RATING	PRODUCT NAME VENDOR NAME, ADDRESS, TELEPHONE	ENVIRONMENT	DOCUMENTATION	FUNCTIONALITY	EASE OF USE	SUPPORT	SYSTEM INTERFACE	VENDOR EXPERIENCE
8.2	TARGET FINANCIAL MODELING Comshare Target Software; 1935 Cliff Valley Way, Suite 200, Atlanta, GA 30329 • 404-634-9535	7.2	9.2	9.2	10	8.2	6.0	8.0
8.1	MULTIPLAN Microsoft Corp; 10700 Northup Way, Bellevue, WA 98004 • 206-828-8080	8.0	9.0	9.0	9.5	5.0	7.0	9.0
7.8	BUSINESS PLANNING TOOL Softstar, Inc; 13935 U.S. Highway #1 Juno Square, Juno Beach, FL 33408 • 305-627-5511	8.0	9.0	6.4	8.0	9.0	6.5	8.0
7.4	III E-Z PIECES Haba Systems, Inc; 15154 Stagg Street, Van Nuys, CA 91405 • 818-901-8828	8.0	6.0	8.5	8.0	6.0	8.0	7.0
7.3	SUPERCALC-3 SORCIM Corporation; 2310 Lundy Avenue, San Jose, CA 95131 • 408-942-1727	6.0	9.0	8.0	9.0	5.0	7.0	7.0
7.2	VISISCHEDULE VisiCorp; 2895 Zanker Road, San Jose, CA 95134 • 408-946-9000	6.2	8.2	8.2	6.2	9.0	3.5	9.0
6.9	SUPERCALC-2 SORCIM Corporation; 2310 Lundy Avenue, San Jose, CA 95131 • 408-942-1727	10	8.0	8.5	6.0	5.0	6.0	5.0
6.9	CALCIT ITSoftware; P.O. Box 2392, Princeton, NJ 08540 • 609-799-2600	9.0	8.0	7.0	9.0	4.0	6.0	5.0
6.9	MARKET MANAGER Dow Jones Software; P.O. Box 300, Princeton, NJ 08540 • 609-452-2000	3.0	9.0	7.1	9.0	7.9	5.0	7.0
6.8	VISICALC VisiCorp; 2895 Zanker Road, San Jose, CA 95134 • 408-946-9000	7.5	8.5	6.5	6.5	5.0	4.5	9.0
6.6	MULTI-TOOL BUDGET Microsoft Corp; 10700 Northup Way, Bellevue, WA 98004 • 206-828-8080	6.0	7.0	8.0	6.0	5.0	5.0	9.0
6.5	TKISOLVER Software Arts Inc; 27 Mica Lane, Wellesley, MA 02181 • 617-431-6500	7.0	9.0	7.0	9.0	3.0	5.5	5.0
6.2	LOTUS 1-2-3 Lotus Development Corp; 161 First Street, Cambridge, MA 02142 • 617-492-7870	4.0	8.0	9.5	8.0	4.0	6.0	4.0
6.1	PERFECT CALC Perfect Software; 702 Harrison Street, Berkeley, CA 94710 • 800-222-4222	5.2	6.2	7.5	4.2	7.0	7.5	5.0
6.1	PEACHCALC Peachtree Software, Inc; 3445 Peachtree Road NE, 8th Floor, Atlanta, GA 30326 • 404-239-3000	8.8	7.5	5.0	4.5	7.0	2.0	8.0



Ratings Summary—Spreadsheets, Finance & Planning Packages

	RETAIL UNIT PRICE (\$)	NUMBER OF ROWS	NUMBER OF COLUMNS	FINANCIAL FUNCTIONS			STATISTICAL FUNCTIONS					OPERATING SYSTEMS SUPPORTED					MEMORY REQUIRED (Bytes)	COPY PROTECTED	FIRST DELIVERY	NUMBER OF INSTALLATIONS
				Net Present Value	Internal Rate of Return	Other	Average	Minimum	Maximum	Count	Sum	Standard Deviation	Other	PC-DOS	MS-DOS	CP/M-80				
325	NA	999	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	128K	No	1982	INA
275	255	63	• — —	• — —	• — —	• — —	• — —	• — —	• — —	• — —	• — —	• — —	• — —	• — —	• — —	• — —	48K-64K	No	1982	INA
195	NA	NA	— — •	— — •	— — •	— — •	— — •	— — •	— — •	— — •	— — •	— — •	— — •	— — •	— — •	— — •	128K	No	1983	INA
295	127	999	• — —	• — —	• — —	• — —	• — —	• — —	• — —	• — —	• — —	• — —	• — —	• — —	• — —	• — —	256K	No	1983	6,000
395	254	63	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	96K	No	1983	INA
300	NA	NA	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	64K	Yes	1982	INA
295	254	63	• — —	• — —	• — —	• — —	• — —	• — —	• — —	• — —	• — —	• — —	• — —	• — —	• — —	• — —	48K-64K	No	1983	250,000+
400	255	255	• — •	• — •	• — •	• — •	• — •	• — •	• — •	• — •	• — •	• — •	• — •	• — •	• — •	• — •	192	No	1983	INA
299	NA	NA	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	128K	Yes	1982	INA
250	254	63	• — —	• — —	• — —	• — —	• — —	• — —	• — —	• — —	• — —	• — —	• — —	• — —	• — —	• — —	64K	Yes	1979	700,000+
150	NA	NA	— — •	— — •	— — •	— — •	— — •	— — •	— — •	— — •	— — •	— — •	— — •	— — •	— — •	— — •	64K-128K	No	1983	5,000
399	NA	NA	• — •	• — •	• — •	• — •	• — •	• — •	• — •	• — •	• — •	• — •	• — •	• — •	• — •	• — •	96K	Yes	1983	INA
495	2,048	256	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	196K	Yes	1983	100,000
295	255	52	• — —	• — —	• — —	• — —	• — —	• — —	• — —	• — —	• — —	• — —	• — —	• — —	• — —	• — —	128K	No	1982	150,000
250	254	63	• — —	• — —	• — —	• — —	• — —	• — —	• — —	• — —	• — —	• — —	• — —	• — —	• — —	• — —	64K-128K	No	1983	100,000+



Ratings Summary—Spreadsheets, Finance & Planning Packages

OVERALL AVERAGE RATING	PRODUCT NAME VENDOR NAME, ADDRESS, TELEPHONE	ENVIRONMENT	DOCUMENTATION	FUNCTIONALITY	EASE OF USE	SUPPORT	SYSTEM INTERFACE	VENDOR EXPERIENCE
	MULTI-TOOL FINANCIAL STATEMENT Microsoft Corp; 10700 Northup Way, Bellevue, WA 98004 • 206-828-8080							
	TIME MANAGER IBM Corp; P.O. Box 1328-W, Boca Raton, FL 33432 • 800-447-4700							
	CALCSTAR MicroPro International; 33 San Pablo Avenue, San Rafael, CA 94903 • 415-499-1200							
	SHOEBOX Techland Systems, Inc; 25 Waterside Plaza, New York, NY 10010 • 212-684-7788							
	CONTEXT MBA Context Management Systems; 23864 Hawthorne Boulevard, Suite 101, Torrance, CA 90505 • 213-378-8277							
	SALES PLANNER National Microware, 2102 Business Center Drive, Irvine, CA 92715 • 714-752-2344							



Ratings Summary—Spreadsheets, Finance & Planning Packages

	RETAIL UNIT PRICE (\$)	NUMBER OF ROWS	NUMBER OF COLUMNS	FINANCIAL FUNCTIONS			STATISTICAL FUNCTIONS					OPERATING SYSTEMS SUPPORTED					MEMORY REQUIRED (Bytes)	COPY PROTECTED	FIRST DELIVERY	NUMBER OF INSTALLATIONS			
				Net Present Value	Internal Rate of Return	Other	Average	Minimum	Maximum	Count	Sum	Standard Deviation	Other	PC-DOS	MS-DOS	Cp/M-80	Cp/M-86	Other					
150	NA	NA	---	•			---	---	---	---	---	---		•	•	---	•			128K	No	1983	5,000
100	NA	NA	---	•			---	---	---	---	---	---		•	•	---	---			64K	Yes	1983	INA
195	255	127	---				•	•	•	•	•	---	•	•	•	•	---			64K-128K	No	1982	40,000+
125	NA	NA	---				---	---	---	---	---	---		•	---	---	---			128K	Yes	1982	5,000
695	VRBL	VRBL	•	•	•		•	•	•	•	•	•		•	---	---	•			256K	Yes	1982	10,000
245	NA	NA	---	•			---	---	---	---	---	---		•	•	•	---			64K-128K	No	1983	500



Ratings Summary—Data Management Packages

Data Decisions has developed a precise methodology to evaluate mainstream microcomputer software with an orientation to the corporate user. With this methodology we are able to quantify our results and therefore rank our findings. Our analysts use and rate each package just as a corporate end user would.

What follows on the next several pages are graphical representations of the rankings of our findings for data management packages. The use of the keys is a reminder of the importance of our Hands-On Evaluation method of evaluating software. On the page facing the rankings is an accompanying dot chart which indicates salient features of each of the packages. The dot chart also indicates the unit price of the package, the operating systems supported, the memory required for operation, if the product is copy protected, the date of product introduction, and the number of installations.

A full description of our results and an expert evaluation of each product is included in Volume 2 of this publication. These evaluations are filed alphabetically by vendor and start with Filing Sequence number 810. Behind the 800 tab are two documents, the first of which lists each product we evaluated alphabetically by category of software. For example, all of the Word Processors, all of the Data Management packages, etc are listed. The second document provides a detailed description of the Methodology our analysts used to evaluate each of the different types of software. For those users who want a more exhaustive list from which to choose, you are asked to turn to our microcomputer software survey section behind the 600 tab in Volume 1. In this section software is divided by category and brief summaries appear for most of the popular software used in the corporate environment.

DATA MANAGEMENT SPECIFICATIONS

The following specifications are listed for each data management package evaluated:

■ RETAIL UNIT PRICE

This states the single-unit retail price of the product as quoted by the vendor.

■ FILE FEATURES

This section of the specifications chart indicates the size of the database as stated by the vendor. In some packages there is no specific software limit to the number of records per file but rather either the memory or disk capacity are the limiting factor.

Number of Fields per Record • states the record size by indicating the number of fields permitted.

Number of Characters per Field • states the field size by number of characters. In some cases, the screen size is the limiting factor in defining the field size.

Number of Records per File • indicates the file size by stating the number of records allowed per file.

■ FILE COMPATIBILITY

This section indicates the capability of the package to generate files which are compatible with other packages such as word processors or spreadsheets for the purpose of sharing data or generating report. ASCII is the most common form of file compatibility. The DIF (Data Interchange Format) and DBF (dBase II format) indicate compatibility with VisiCalc and dBase II files, respectively.

ASCII • indicates the program generates ASCII-compatible files.

DIF • indicates the program generates DIF-compatible files.

DBF • indicates the program generates DBF-compatible files.

■ PASSWORD PROTECTION

This entry implies that some sort of security is available with the data management package. It may indicate that a password is necessary to gain access to the database or that certain records, fields, or files require a password before reading is permitted.

■ COMMAND DRIVEN

This section indicates that user must specify, through a series of commands, the functions the database is to perform. It is possible that some data management packages can be command and/or menu driven.

■ MENU DRIVEN

This section indicates that the database provides a series of menus which show the user the choices which are available to perform

database function. It is possible that some data management packages can be command and/or menu driven.

■ OPERATING SYSTEMS SUPPORTED

This category has 4 entries which include the 4 most popular and common operating systems: PC-DOS, MS-DOS, CP/M-80, and CP/M-86. A final category entitled "Other" indicates that the package runs on an operating system not listed, such as TRS-DOS, Apple DOS, UCSD p-System, or a UNIX variation such as XENIX, to name a few. To determine which version of the operating system the package runs on or to find which "Other" operating system supports the package please refer to the full-length, in-depth report in Volume 2.

■ MEMORY REQUIRED

This section states the minimum memory required to operate the package. In some cases a range of memory is indicated; usually this occurs if the package runs on more than one operating system, and each operating system requires a different amount of memory. Please refer to the full-length, in-depth report in Volume 2.

■ COPY PROTECTED

This indicates that the package has some sort of copy protection scheme which prevents the software from being duplicated.

■ FIRST DELIVERY

This date indicates the year that the software package was shipped.

■ NUMBER OF INSTALLATIONS

This section states the approximate number of software packages that have been sold. In some cases the software developers are either not certain of the number of packages sold or prefer not to publish the information. In those cases, an INA (Information Not Available) is indicated.

FOOTNOTES:

INA—Information not available from the vendor.

NA—Not applicable.

VRBL—Variable.

UNL—Unlimited.

Disk—Disk limits the size of the file.

Memory—Memory limits the size of the file.

Screen—Screen size limits the size of the file.

NC—No charge.



Ratings Summary—Data Management Packages

OVERALL AVERAGE RATING	PRODUCT NAME VENDOR NAME, ADDRESS, TELEPHONE	ENVIRONMENT	DOCUMENTATION	FUNCTIONALITY	EASE OF USE	SUPPORT	SYSTEM INTERFACE	VENDOR EXPERIENCE
7 ⁶	BTRIEVE SoftCraft Inc; P.O. Box 9802 #590, Austin, TX 78766 • 512-346-8380	7 ⁰	7 ⁰	9 ⁰	8 ⁰	8 ⁰	10	7 ⁰
7 ¹	DAY ONE Day One Software Inc; 618 Shoemaker Road, Suite 201, King of Prussia 19406 • 215-337-8255	9 ⁴	8 ²	8 ⁰	7 ⁶	6 ⁶	7 ⁸	2 ⁰
6 ⁹	PERSONAL PEARL Pearlsoft; P.O. Box 13850, Salem, OR 97309 • 503-682-3636	8 ⁰	9 ⁰	6 ⁰	7 ⁰	7 ⁰	7 ⁰	4 ⁰
6 ⁹	DESK ORGANIZER Conceptual Instruments Company; 4730 Warrington Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19143 • 215-726-7856	6 ⁰	8 ⁴	8 ⁶	9 ²	9 ²	5 ⁰	2 ⁰
6 ⁷	DBASE II Ashton-Tate; 10150 West Jefferson Boulevard, Culver City, CA 90230 • 213-204-5570	5 ⁸	7 ⁰	9 ⁸	5 ⁰	5 ⁰	7 ⁰	7 ⁰
6 ⁶	KEYSTROKE DATA BASE Brock Software Products, Inc; P.O. Box 799, Crystal Lake, IL 60014 • 815-459-4210	7 ⁰	6 ⁰	9 ⁰	7 ⁰	4 ⁰	8 ⁰	5 ⁰
6 ⁶	DATA BASE MANAGER II—THE INTEGRATOR Alpha Software Corp; 30 B Street, Burlington, MA 01803 • 617-229-2924	6 ⁰	7 ²	6 ²	7 ⁴	6 ²	8 ²	5 ⁰
6 ⁵	T.I.M. IV Innovative Software, Inc; 9300 West 110th Street, Suite 380, Overland Park, KS 66210 • 913-383-1089	5 ⁰	8 ⁰	9 ⁰	8 ⁸	5 ⁰	4 ⁵	5 ⁰
6 ³	VISIFILE VisiCorp; 2895 Zanker Road, San Jose, CA 95134 • 408-946-9000	6 ⁰	4 ⁰	8 ⁰	6 ⁰	5 ⁰	6 ⁰	9 ⁰
6 ²	HARVARD PROJECT MANAGER Harvard Software, Inc; 521 Great Road, Littleton, MA 01460 • 617-486-8431	5 ⁰	9 ⁰	7 ⁰	8 ⁰	5 ⁰	6 ²	3 ⁰
6 ¹	R:BASE SERIES 4000 Microrim, Inc; 1750 112th Avenue, N.E., Bellevue, WA 98004 • 206-453-6017	6 ⁰	8 ⁰	8 ⁰	6 ⁰	2 ⁸	7 ⁰	5 ²
6 ¹	FAST FACTS Innovative Software, Inc; 9300 West 110th Street, Suite 380, Overland Park, KS 66210 • 913-383-1089	5 ⁰	7 ⁰	6 ⁰	7 ⁰	7 ⁰	5 ⁰	6 ⁰
6 ¹	KEYSTROKE REPORT GENERATOR Brock Software Products, Inc; P.O. Box 799, Crystal Lake, IL 60014 • 815-459-4210	7 ⁰	5 ⁰	8 ⁰	7 ⁰	5 ⁰	6 ⁰	5 ⁰
6 ⁰	Q-PRO 4 Quic-N-Easi Products, Inc; 136 Granite Hill Court, Langhorne, PA 19047 • 215-968-5966	8 ⁰	7 ⁰	7 ⁰	6 ⁰	4 ⁰	6 ⁰	4 ⁰
5 ⁹	REPORTSTAR MicroPro International Corp; 33 San Pablo Avenue, San Rafael, CA 94903 • 415-499-1200	6 ⁵	8 ⁵	7 ⁸	6 ⁵	3 ⁵	1 ⁸	6 ⁵



Ratings Summary—Data Management Packages

RETAIL UNIT PRICE (\$)	FILE FEATURES		Number of records per file	FILE COMPATIBILITY			PASSWORD PROTECTION	COMMAND DRIVEN	MENU DRIVEN	OPERATING SYSTEMS SUPPORTED				MEMORY REQUIRED (Bytes)	COPY PROTECTED	FIRST DELIVERY	NUMBER OF INSTALLATIONS
	Number of fields per record	Number of characters per field		ASCII	DIF	DBF				PC-DOS	MS-DOS	CP/M-80	CP/M-86				
145	—	—	Unl	—	—	—	—	•	•	•	—	•	64K-96K	No	1982	1,000+	
695	891	255	65,000	—	•	•	•	—	•	•	•	—	•	64K-128K	No	1983	500+
295	250	80	disk	•	—	—	•	—	•	•	•	—	—	52K-128K	No	1982	85,000+
250	NA	NA	NA	—	—	—	—	•	•	•	—	—	•	64K-256K	No	1982	INA
700	32	254	65,500	•	—	—	•	•	—	•	•	•	•	128K	No	1981	150,000
249	90	4,096	32,000	—	•	—	—	—	•	—	—	—	•	256K	Yes	1983	1,500
295	40	60	memory	•	•	—	—	—	•	•	—	—	•	128K-192K	No	1983	INA
495	40	60	32,700+	•	•	—	•	—	•	•	•	—	—	128K	No	1980	17,000+
300	40-104	255	32,000	•	•	—	•	—	•	•	—	—	—	64K	Yes	1980	80,000+
395	NA	NA	NA	—	•	—	—	—	•	•	—	—	—	128K-192K	No	1983	6,000
495	400	1530	2.5 billion	•	•	—	•	•	•	•	—	—	•	256K	No	1983	INA
259	NA	NA	NA	•	•	—	•	—	•	•	—	—	—	128K	No	1983	2,000
149	NA	NA	NA	—	—	—	—	—	•	—	—	—	•	256K	No	1983	INA
395 to 795	—	255	Unl	•	—	—	—	•	•	•	•	•	•	128K	No	1981	3,500
350	NA	NA	NA	•	—	—	—	—	•	•	•	•	—	96K	No	1982	INA



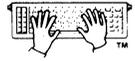
Ratings Summary—Data Management Packages

OVERALL AVERAGE RATING	PRODUCT NAME VENDOR NAME, ADDRESS, TELEPHONE	ENVIRONMENT	DOCUMENTATION	FUNCTIONALITY	EASE OF USE	SUPPORT	SYSTEM INTERFACE	VENDOR EXPERIENCE
5.7	C.I.P. Concentric Data Systems, Inc; 18 Lyman Street, Westboro, MA 01581 • 617-366-1122	5.8	4.0	6.0	7.0	5.0	7.0	5.0
5.5	DATASTAR MicroPro International Corp; 33 San Pablo Avenue, San Rafael, CA 94903 • 415-499-1200	7.0	8.0	5.0	5.8	2.2	2.2	8.0
5.4	ADVANCED DB MASTER Stoneware, Inc; 50 Belvedere Street, San Rafael, CA 94901 • 415-454-6500	3.0	8.0	8.0	6.0	5.0	2.0	6.0
5.1	GOLDATABASE Goldata Computer Services; 2 Bryn Mawr Avenue, Bryn Mawr, PA 19010 • 215-525-1036	5.0	6.0	4.0	6.0	7.0	4.8	3.0
5.0	PFS:REPORT Software Publishing Corp; 1901 Landings Drive, Mountain View, CA 94043 • 415-962-0191	7.0	8.0	3.5	5.0	2.5	2.0	7.0
5.0	INSTANT RECALL Howard W. Sams & Co. Inc; 4300 West 62nd Street, Indianapolis, IN 46268 • 800-428-3696	7.0	7.0	5.5	7.0	2.0	1.5	5.0
4.9	PFS:FILE Software Publishing Corp; 1901 Landings Drive, Mountain View, CA 94043 • 415-962-0191	6.8	8.0	4.5	6.0	1.8	1.5	7.0
4.3	THOR Fastware Inc; 200 Freeway Drive, East Orange, NJ 07028 • 201-676-6100	4.0	-	7.0	2.5	-	6.5	1.5



Ratings Summary—Data Management Packages

RETAIL UNIT PRICE (\$)	FILE FEATURES		Number of records per file	FILE COMPATIBILITY			PASSWORD PROTECTION	COMMAND DRIVEN	MENU DRIVEN	OPERATING SYSTEMS SUPPORTED					MEMORY REQUIRED (Bytes)	COPY PROTECTED	FIRST DELIVERY	NUMBER OF INSTALLATIONS
	Number of fields per record	Number of characters per field		ASCII	DIF	DBF				PC-DOS	MS-DOS	CP/M-80	CP/M-86	Other				
395	40	50	65,000	•	•	—	•	—	•	•	—	—	—	—	128K-192K	Yes	1984	1,000+
395	245	255	disk size	•	—	—	—	—	•	•	•	•	•	•	48K	No	1980	INA
595	250	250	15/40MB	•	—	—	•	•	•	•	•	—	—	—	256K	No	1983	INA
350	100	80	disk size	—	•	—	—	•	•	•	•	—	—	—	192K	Yes	1983	150
125	NA	NA	NA	—	—	—	—	—	•	•	•	—	—	—	64K	Yes	1983	300,000
60	NA	NA	NA	—	—	—	—	—	•	—	—	—	—	•	48K	Yes	1983	INA
140	3200	screen size	—	—	—	—	—	—	•	•	•	—	—	—	64K-128K	Yes	1980	300,000
285	NA	NA	32,000	—	—	—	—	—	•	•	•	—	—	—	128K	No	1984	Pre-release



Ratings Summary — Communications Packages

Data Decisions has developed a precise methodology to evaluate mainstream microcomputer software with an orientation to the corporate user. With this methodology we are able to quantify our results and therefore rank our findings. Our analysts use and rate each package just as a corporate end user would.

What follows on the next several pages are graphical representations of the rankings of our findings for communication software. The use of the keys is a reminder of the importance of our Hands-On Evaluation method of evaluating software. On the page facing the rankings is an accompanying dot chart which indicates salient features of each of the packages. The dot chart also indicates the unit price of the package, the operating systems supported, the memory required for operation, if the product is copy protected, the date of product introduction, and the number of installations.

A full description of our results and an expert evaluation of each product is included in Volume 2 of this publication. These evaluations are filed alphabetically by vendor and start with Filing Sequence number 810. Behind the 800 tab are two documents the first of which lists each product we evaluated alphabetically by category of software. For example, all of the Word Processors, all of the Data Management packages, etc are listed. The second document provides a detailed description of the Methodology our analysts used to evaluate each of the different types of software. For those users who want a more exhaustive list from which to choose, you are asked to turn to our microcomputer software survey section behind the 600 tab in Volume 1. In this section software is divided by category and brief summaries appear for most of the popular software used in the corporate environment.

COMMUNICATION SPECIFICATIONS

The following specifications are listed for each communication package evaluated:

■ RETAIL UNIT PRICE

This states the single-unit retail price of the product as quoted by the vendor.

■ TYPE OF PRODUCT

This category specifies the particular function of the package evaluated. Some packages may have more than one type of function. Most General-Purpose Communication packages will provide file transfer facilities or some type of terminal emulation. The following products give specific functions for each product.

General-Purpose Communication • indicates that the package provides general asynchronous type of communication facilities.

File Transfer • indicates that the package can transfer data for use on other microcomputers or larger systems.

Terminal Emulation • indicates that the package provides the ability to emulate or duplicate the functions of one or more terminals.

Teletype/Teleprinter Emulation • indicates that the package provides the ability to emulate or duplicate the functions of a teletype or teleprinter terminal.

Special-Purpose Communication • implies that the package provides more than general-purpose communication facilities; that is, it may provide communication facilities with a national database or bulletin board service or it may be a hardware/software package consisting of a modem-specific communications program and a modem, etc.

■ TARGET HOST

Most terminals are designed for use with a particular computer, and thus most emulators have a preferred partner. Having a correct product for the target system assures a minimum of connection difficulty. This category indicates the target host for which the product was designed.

IBM PC • indicates that the IBM PC can be used as a target host.

IBM Mainframe • indicates that an IBM mainframe can be used as a target host. Please see the full-length report for an indication of which IBM mainframe can be used as a host.

Apple • indicates that an Apple system can be used as a target host.

Other • indicates that some other system is used as the target host.

■ DIRECT FORMAT CONVERSION

Some products will include utility programs to convert the structure of popular microcomputer files to a form suitable for use on the target system. If these format conversion routines are present that fact will be indicated here.

■ DATA RATES

This indicates the speed at which data is transferred. This feature may not be important for communication via modems over phone

lines, since this type of transfer is usually limited in speed by the modem used.

To 1200 bps • indicates that the transfer rate supported is up to 1200 bps.

1200 to 2400 bps • indicates that the transfer rate is between 1200 and 2400 bps.

2400 to 4800 bps • indicates that the data rate is between 2400 and 4800 bps.

Over 4800 bps • indicates that the data transfer rate is over 4800 bps.

■ OPERATING SYSTEMS SUPPORTED

This category has 4 entries which include the 4 most popular and common operating systems: PC-DOS, MS-DOS, CP/M-80, and CP/M-86. A final category entitled "Other" indicates that the package runs on an operating system not listed, such as TRS-DOS, Apple DOS, UCSD p-System, or a UNIX variation such as XENIX, to name a few. To determine which version of the operating system the package runs on or to find which "Other" operating system supports the package please refer to the full-length, in-depth report in Volume 2.

■ MEMORY REQUIRED

This section states the minimum memory required to operate the package. In some cases a range of memory is indicated; usually this occurs if the package runs on more than one operating system, and each operating system requires a different amount of memory. Please refer to the full-length, in-depth report in Volume 2.

■ COPY PROTECTED

This indicates that the package has some sort of copy protection scheme which prevents the software from being duplicated.

■ FIRST DELIVERY

This date indicates the year that the software package was shipped.

■ NUMBER OF INSTALLATIONS

This section states the approximate number of software packages that have been sold. In some cases the software developers are either not certain of the number of packages sold or prefer not to publish the information. In those cases, an INA (Information Not Available) is indicated.

FOOTNOTES:

INA — Information not available from the vendor.

NA — Not applicable.

VRBL — Variable.

UNL — Unlimited.

Disk — Disk limits the size of the file.

Memory — Memory limits the size of the file.

Screen — Screen size limits the size of the file.

NC — No charge.



Ratings Summary—Communications Packages

OVERALL AVERAGE RATING	PRODUCT NAME VENDOR NAME, ADDRESS, TELEPHONE	ENVIRONMENT	DOCUMENTATION	FUNCTIONALITY	EASE OF USE	SUPPORT	SYSTEM INTERFACE	VENDOR EXPERIENCE
8 ²	ASYNCHRONOUS COMMUNICATIONS SUPPORT IBM Corp; P.O. Box 1328-c, Boca Raton, FL 33432 • 800-447-4700	8 ⁰	9 ²	8 ⁰	9 ²	5 ⁰	8 ⁰	10
7 ⁷	VISILINK VisiCorp; 2895 Zanker Road, San Jose, CA 95134 • 408-946-9000	5 ⁰	9 ²	8 ⁰	8 ⁰	8 ⁸	6 ⁰	9 ⁰
7 ⁷	PERFECT LINK Perfect Software, Inc; 1001 Camelia Street, Berkeley, CA 94710 • 415-524-1926	8 ⁰	8 ⁰	8 ⁰	8 ⁰	7 ⁰	8 ⁰	7 ⁰
6 ⁸	BLAST Communications Research Group; 8939 Jefferson Highway, Baton Rouge, LA 70808 • 504-923-0888	9 ⁵	3 ⁰	9 ⁰	5 ⁰	6 ⁰	9 ⁰	6 ⁰
6 ⁷	SMARTCOM II Hayes Microcomputer Products; 5923 Peachtree Industrial Boulevard, Norcross, GA 30092 • 404-441-1617	6 ⁰	9 ⁰	7 ²	9 ⁰	5 ⁰	5 ⁰	6 ⁰
6 ⁶	DATA CAPTURE Southeastern Software, 7743 Briarwood Drive, New Orleans, LA 70128 • 504-246-7937	8 ⁰	8 ⁰	8 ⁰	9 ⁰	3 ⁰	7 ⁰	3 ⁰
6 ⁶	THE APPLE-IBM CONNECTION Alpha Software Corp; 30 B Street, Burlington, MA 01803 • 617-229-2924	5 ⁰	7 ⁰	8 ⁰	8 ⁰	7 ⁰	8 ⁰	3 ⁰
5 ⁷	CROSSTALK Microstuf, Inc; 1845 The Exchange, Atlanta, GA 30339 • 404-952-0267	6 ⁰	3 ⁰	9 ⁰	4 ⁰	4 ⁰	8 ⁰	6 ⁰
5 ⁷	PC/INTERCOMM Mark of the Unicorn, Inc; P.O. Box 423, Arlington, MA 02174 • 617-526-2760	9 ⁰	3 ⁰	7 ⁰	5 ⁰	5 ⁰	6 ²	5 ⁰
5 ³	READITERM Readiware Systems, Inc; P.O. Box 680, West Redding, CT 06896 • 203-431-3521	9 ⁰	5 ⁰	7 ⁰	4 ⁰	3 ²	7 ²	2 ⁰
4 ⁶	PC-TALK III The Headlands Press, Inc; P.O. Box 862, Tiburon, CA 94920 • 415-435-9775	8 ⁰	3 ⁰	7 ⁰	5 ⁰	2 ⁰	5 ⁰	2 ⁰



Ratings Summary—Communications Packages

RETAIL UNIT PRICE (\$)	TYPE OF PRODUCT				TARGET HOST				DIRECT FORMAT CONVERSION				OPERATING SYSTEMS SUPPORTED				MEMORY REQUIRED	COPY PROTECTED	FIRST DELIVERY	NUMBER OF INSTALLATIONS		
	General Purpose Communications	File Transfer	Terminal Emulation	Teletype / Teleprinter Special Purpose Communication	IBM PC	IBM Mainframe	Apple	Other	to 1200 bps	1200-2400 bps	2400-4800 bps	4800-9600 bps	Over 9600 bps	PC-DOS	MS-DOS	CP / M-80					CP / M-86	Other
60	—	—	•	—	—	•	—	—	•	—	—	—	—	•	•	•	•	—	64K	No	1981	INA
250	—	—	—	•	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	•	•	—	—	—	192K	No	1982	INA
149	—	•	—	—	—	•	—	•	—	—	—	—	—	•	•	—	—	—	128K	No	INA	INA
250	•	•	•	—	•	—	•	•	•	—	—	—	—	•	•	•	•	•	64K	No	1981	INA
119	•	—	—	•	•	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	•	—	—	—	—	96K	No	1983	INA
120	—	•	•	—	—	•	—	•	•	—	—	—	—	•	•	—	•	—	48K-64K	No	1982	12,000
250	—	—	—	•	•	—	•	—	•	—	—	—	—	•	—	—	•	—	64K-96K	Yes	1982	5,000
195	—	•	—	—	—	•	—	•	—	—	—	—	—	•	•	•	—	—	64K-128K	No	1983	2,000+
99	—	•	—	—	—	—	—	•	—	—	—	—	—	•	—	—	—	—	64K	No	1983	10,000
75	—	•	—	•	•	•	—	•	—	—	—	—	—	•	•	—	—	—	96K	No	INA	200+
35	—	•	—	•	—	•	—	•	—	—	—	—	—	•	—	—	—	—	64K-128K	No	1981	INA



Ratings Summary—Graphics Packages

Data Decisions has developed a precise methodology to evaluate mainstream microcomputer software with an orientation to the corporate user. With this methodology we are able to quantify our results and therefore rank our findings. Our analysts use and rate each package just as a corporate end user would.

What follows on the next several pages are graphical representations of the rankings of our findings for graphics software. The use of the keys is a reminder of the importance of our Hands-On Evaluation method of evaluating software. On the page facing the rankings is an accompanying dot chart which indicates salient features of each of the packages. The dot chart also indicates the unit price of the package, the operating systems supported, the memory required for operation, if the product is copy protected, the date of product introduction, and the number of installations.

A full description of our results and an expert evaluation of each product is included in Volume 2 of this publication. These evaluations are filed alphabetically by vendor and start with Filing Sequence number 810. Behind the 800 tab are two documents, the first of which lists each product we evaluated alphabetically by category of software. For example, all of the Word Processors, all of the Data Management packages, etc are listed. The second document provides a detailed description of the Methodology our analysts used to evaluate each of the different types of software. For those users who want a more exhaustive list from which to choose, you are asked to turn to our microcomputer software survey section behind the 600 tab in Volume 1. In this section software is divided by category and brief summaries appear for most of the popular software used in the corporate environment.

GRAPHICS SPECIFICATIONS

The following specifications are listed for each graphics software package evaluated. For more detailed information about the packages please refer to the full-length report in Volume 2.

■ RETAIL UNIT PRICE

This states the single-unit retail price of the product as quoted by the vendor.

■ BUSINESS GRAPHICS

This section of the chart defines the features of the product in the production of graphs from numeric data. This includes its facilities for accepting data input and also the types of graphic forms available with the package.

Spreadsheet Input • indicates that the package can accept data input from a spreadsheet program and generate graphs.

Direct Input • indicates that the package can accept data directly from the screen for the purpose of generating graphs.

Other Input • indicates that the package can accept input from other sources in order to generate graphs. The other sources of input may be BASIC language files, files from mainframe programs, etc.

Bar Chart • indicates that the program is capable of generating bar charts.

Pie Chart • indicates that the program is capable of generating pie charts.

Line Chart • indicates that the program is capable of generating line charts.

Other Charts • indicates that the program is capable of generating charts such as 3-D bar and symbol charts, histograms, curve fitting charts, etc.

■ TEXT GRAPHICS

This section lists the text and drawing features of the product. It includes the package's ability to define multiple type fonts, free-hand drawing capability, and the support of drawing support such as a light pen, mouse, or a data tablet.

Special Fonts • indicates that the package supports special fonts, such as language fonts, user-defined fonts, etc.

Text Manipulation • states if test characters can be expanded, shrunk, rotated, etc.

Drawing Capability • indicates if the package provides special free-hand drawing capability.

Light Pen Support • states if the package supports the use of a light pen for drawing.

Mouse Support • indicates if the package supports the use of a mouse device for drawing.

Data Tablet Support • indicates if the package supports the use of a data tablet for drawing.

■ OPERATING SYSTEMS SUPPORTED

This category has 4 entries which include the 4 most popular and common operating systems: PC-DOS, MS-DOS, CP/M-80, and CP/M-86. A final category entitled "Other" indicates that the package runs on an operating system not listed, such as TRS-DOS, Apple DOS, UCSD p-System, or a UNIX variation such as XENIX, to name a few. To determine which version of the operating system the package runs on or to find which "Other" operating system supports the package please refer to the full-length, in-depth report in Volume 2.

■ MEMORY REQUIRED

This section states the minimum memory required to operate the package. In some cases a range of memory is indicated; usually this occurs if the package runs on more than one operating system, and each operating system requires a different amount of memory. Please refer to the full-length, in-depth report in Volume 2.

■ COPY PROTECTED

This indicates that the package has some sort of copy protection scheme which prevents the software from being duplicated.

■ FIRST DELIVERY

This date indicates the year that the software package was shipped.

■ NUMBER OF INSTALLATIONS

This section states the approximate number of software packages that have been sold. In some cases the software developers are either not certain of the number of packages sold or prefer not to publish the information. In those cases, an INA (Information Not Available) is indicated.

FOOTNOTES:

INA—Information not available from the vendor.

NA—Not applicable.

VRBL—Variable.

UNL—Unlimited.

Disk—Disk limits the size of the file.

Memory—Memory limits the size of the file.

Screen—Screen size limits the size of the file.

NC—No charge.



Ratings Summary—Graphics Packages

OVERALL AVERAGE RATING	PRODUCT NAME VENDOR NAME, ADDRESS, TELEPHONE	ENVIRONMENT	DOCUMENTATION	FUNCTIONALITY	EASE OF USE	SUPPORT	SYSTEM INTERFACE	VENDOR EXPERIENCE
7.7	GRAFTALK Redding Group; 2730 High Ridge Road, Stamford, CT 06903 • 203-329-8874	8.0	8.0	8.0	9.0	5.0	10	6.0
7.4	BPS BUSINESS GRAPHICS Business & Professional Software; 143 Binney Street, Cambridge, MA 02142 • 617-491-3377	7.8	8.5	8.5	9.0	7.0	9.0	3.0
7.3	VISITREND/PLOT VisiCorp; 2895 Zanker Road, San Jose, CA 95134 • 408-946-9000	8.0	9.0	8.0	5.0	9.0	3.0	9.0
7.1	FAST GRAPHS Innovative Software, Inc; 9300 West 110th Street, #380, Overland Park, KS 66210 • 913-383-1089	8.1	3.2	8.2	7.4	7.5	8.5	7.0
6.9	THE GRAPHICS DEPARTMENT Sensible Software Inc; 6619 Perham Drive, West Bloomfield, MI 48033 • 313-399-8877	8.0	8.0	9.0	7.0	4.0	7.0	5.0
6.9	BGS (BUSINESS GRAPHICS SYSTEM) Peachtree Software Inc; 3445 Peachtree Road NE, 8th Floor, Atlanta, GA 30326 • 404-239-3000	7.0	6.0	9.0	7.0	5.0	5.0	9.0
5.0	PFS:GRAPH Software Publishing Corp; 1901 Landings Drive, Mountain View, CA 94043 • 415-962-0191	5.9	8.0	4.0	7.0	2.0	4.5	4.0



Ratings Summary — Graphics Packages

RETAIL UNIT PRICE (\$)	BUSINESS GRAPHICS						TEXT GRAPHICS				OPERATING SYSTEMS SUPPORTED				MEMORY REQUIRED (Bytes)	COPY PROTECTED	FIRST DELIVERY	NUMBER OF INSTALLATIONS			
	Spreadsheet Input	Other Input	Bar Chart	Pie Chart	Line Chart	Other Charts	Special Fonts	Text Manipulation	Drawing Capability	Light Pen Support	Mouse Support	Data Tablet Support	PC-DOS	MS-DOS					CP/M-80	CP/M-86	Other
450	•	•	•	•	•	—	—	•	•	•	•	—	•	•	•	—	—	48K-128K	No	1982	INA
350	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	—	—	—	—	•	•	—	—	•	128K	No	1980	INA
300	•	•	—	•	•	•	•	•	—	—	—	—	•	•	•	—	—	128K	Yes	1982	INA
350	•	•	•	•	•	•	—	•	•	—	—	—	•	—	—	—	—	128K	No	1982	30,000
125	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	•	48K	No	1983	1,000
295	•	•	—	•	•	•	•	•	—	—	—	—	•	•	•	—	—	64K-128K	No	1983	INA
140	•	•	—	•	•	•	—	—	—	—	—	—	•	•	—	—	•	128K	Yes	1983	300,000



Ratings Summary—Utility Packages

Data Decisions has developed a precise methodology to evaluate mainstream microcomputer software with an orientation to the corporate user. With this methodology we are able to quantify our results and therefore rank our findings. Our analysts use and rate each package just as a corporate end user would.

What follows on the next several pages are graphical representations of the rankings of our findings for utilities software. The use of the keys is a reminder of the importance of our Hands-On Evaluation method of evaluating software. On the page facing the rankings is an accompanying dot chart which indicates salient features of each of the packages. The dot chart also indicates the unit price of the package, the operating systems supported, the memory required for operation, if the product is copy protected, the date of product introduction, and the number of installations.

A full description of our results and an expert evaluation of each product is included in Volume 2 of this publication. These evaluations are filed alphabetically by vendor and start with Filing Sequence number 810. Behind the 800 tab are two documents the first of which lists each product we evaluated alphabetically by category of software. For example, all of the Word Processors, all of the Data Management packages, etc are listed. The second document provides a detailed description of the Methodology our analysts used to evaluate each of the different types of software. For those users who want a more exhaustive list from which to choose, you are asked to turn to our microcomputer software survey section behind the 600 tab in Volume 1. In this section software is divided by category and brief summaries appear for most of the popular software used in the corporate environment.

UTILITIES SPECIFICATIONS

The following specifications are listed for each utility package evaluated:

■ RETAIL UNIT PRICE

This states the single-unit retail price of the product as quoted by the vendor.

■ FUNCTION

In this section is stated the specific function of the utility package.

■ USER INTERFACE

This section lists five methods that a software package can interface with, communicate with, and accept communications from a user. A dot under a type of interface means that the package utilizes that particular method to interface with the user. For a more detailed discussion of this section and an analysis of the quality of these interfaces please refer to the full-length report in Volume 2.

Menus • indicates whether menus are used in the package to list choices for the user.

Function/Special Keys • indicates that the package makes use of either the function keys, ALT key, ESC key, etc.

Control Keys • states whether control characters are used as commands.

Online Help • indicates if online help facilities are available to the user.

Command Language • indicates if a command language is used to operate the package.

■ OPERATING SYSTEMS SUPPORTED

This category has 4 entries which include the 4 most popular and common operating systems: PC-DOS, MS-DOS, CP/M-80, and CP/M-86. A final category entitled "Other" indicates that the package runs on an operating system not listed, such as TRS-DOS, Apple DOS, UCSD p-System, or a UNIX variation such as XENIX,

to name a few. To determine which version of the operating system the package runs on or to find which "Other" operating system supports the package please refer to the full-length, in-depth report in Volume 2.

■ MEMORY REQUIRED

This section states the minimum memory required to operate the package. In some cases a range of memory is indicated; usually this occurs if the package runs on more than one operating system, and each operating system requires a different amount of memory. Please refer to the full-length, in-depth report in Volume 2.

■ COPY PROTECTED

This indicates that the package has some sort of copy protection scheme which prevents the software from being duplicated.

■ FIRST DELIVERY

This date indicates the year that the software package was shipped.

■ NUMBER OF INSTALLATIONS

This section states the approximate number of software packages that have been sold. In some cases the software developers are either not certain of the number of packages sold or prefer not to publish the information. In those cases, an INA (Information Not Available) is indicated.

FOOTNOTES:

INA—Information not available from the vendor.

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Disk—Disk limits the size of the file.

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Ratings Summary—Utility Packages

OVERALL AVERAGE RATING	PRODUCT NAME VENDOR NAME, ADDRESS, TELEPHONE	ENVIRONMENT	DOCUMENTATION	FUNCTIONALITY	EASE OF USE	SUPPORT	SYSTEM INTERFACE	VENDOR EXPERIENCE
7 ⁴	NORTON UTILITIES Norton Computing; 2210 Wilshire Boulevard, Santa Monica, CA 90403 • 213-399-3948	9 ⁵	7 ⁸	9 ⁵	6 ⁰	6 ⁵	5 ⁰	7 ⁵
7 ³	ONESHOT DataViz, Inc; P.O. Box 1319, Norwalk, CT 06856 • 203-847-7724	8 ⁰	9 ⁰	10	10	4 ⁰	9 ⁰	1 ⁰
6 ⁶	STARBURST MicroPro International; 33 San Pablo Avenue, San Rafael, CA 94903 • 415-499-1200	6 ⁰	7 ⁵	8 ⁰	8 ⁰	2 ⁰	6 ⁰	8 ⁵
5 ⁹	COLORTEXT Jupiter Island Corp; 1900 Powell Street, Suite 1135, Emeryville, CA 94608 • 415-655-0840	7 ⁰	7 ⁰	5 ⁰	7 ⁰	3 ⁵	7 ⁰	5 ⁰



Ratings Summary—Utility Packages

RETAIL UNIT PRICE (\$)	FUNCTION	USER INTERFACE					OPERATING SYSTEMS SUPPORTED				MEMORY REQUIRED (Bytes)	COPY PROTECTED	FIRST DELIVERY	NUMBER OF INSTALLATIONS	
		Menus	Function/Special Keys	Control Keys	Online Help	Command Language	PC-DOS	MS-DOS	CP/M-80	CP/M-86	Other				
80	Provides commands for viewing & updating disk/diskette files & directories	• • — • —					• — — — —					64K	No	INA	INA
195	Converts data into file formats for use in data management & spreadsheet programs	• • — • —					• • — — —					128K	Yes	1984	10
195	Systems utility to automate a given function by creating menus and tasks	• • • • •					• • • • —					96K	No	1983	INA
68	Utility print program to provide the user with the capability to use special features of the IDS Prism printer	— • — — •					• • • — —					64K	No	INA	400



Ratings Summary—Training Packages

Data Decisions has developed a precise methodology to evaluate mainstream microcomputer software with an orientation to the corporate user. With this methodology we are able to quantify our results and therefore rank our findings. Our analysts use and rate each package just as a corporate end user would.

What follows on the next several pages are graphical representations of the rankings of our findings for training software. The use of the keys is a reminder of the importance of our Hands-On Evaluation method of evaluating software. On the page facing the rankings is an accompanying dot chart which indicates salient features of each of the packages. The dot chart also indicates the unit price of the package, the operating systems supported, the memory required for operation, if the product is copy protected, the date of product introduction, and the number of installations.

A full description of our results and an expert evaluation of each product is included in Volume 2 of this publication. These evaluations are filed alphabetically by vendor and start with Filing Sequence number 810. Behind the 800 tab are two documents the first of which lists each product we evaluated alphabetically by category of software. For example, all of the Word Processors, all of the Data Management packages, etc are listed. The second document provides a detailed description of the Methodology our analysts used to evaluate each of the different types of software. For those users who want a more exhaustive list from which to choose, you are asked to turn to our microcomputer software survey section behind the 600 tab in Volume 1. In this section software is divided by category and brief summaries appear for most of the popular software used in the corporate environment.

TRAINING SOFTWARE SPECIFICATIONS

The following specifications are listed for each utility package evaluated:

■ RETAIL UNIT PRICE

This states the single-unit retail price of the product as quoted by the vendor.

■ FUNCTION

In this section is stated the specific function of the utility package.

■ USER INTERFACE

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Ratings Summary — Training Packages

OVERALL AVERAGE RATING	PRODUCT NAME VENDOR NAME, ADDRESS, TELEPHONE	ENVIRONMENT	DOCUMENTATION	FUNCTIONALITY	EASE OF USE	SUPPORT	SYSTEM INTERFACE	VENDOR EXPERIENCE
5.9	EXECUTIVE GUIDE TO THE IBM PC Reston Publishing Co.; 11480 Sunset Hills Road, Reston, VA 22090 • 703-437-8900	10	8.5	2.8	5.0	1.0	10	4.0
5.6	THE EXECUTIVE PACKAGE Alpha Software Corp; 30 B Street, Burlington, MA 01803 • 617-229-2924	5.0	7.0	4.0	5.0	5.0	7.0	5.0
5.4	WRITING IS THINKING Kapstrom Inc; 5952 Royal Lane, Suite 124, Dallas, TX 75230 • 214-369-1718	9.0	10	5.0	5.0	4.5	1.5	3.0
4.0	KNOWWARE Knowware, Inc; 301 Vassar Street, Cambridge, MA 02139 • 617-576-3821	5.0	-	7.0	7.0	4.0	2.0	1.5
4.3	DB TUTOR Comprehensive Software Support; 2316 Artesia Boulevard, Suite B, Redondo Beach, CA 90278 • 213-318-2561	8.0	6.0	8.0	8.0	3.0	1.2	4.0
3.4	EXPLORING THE IBM PERSONAL COM- PUTER Digital Learning Systems, Inc; 168 E. Main St., Denville, NJ 07834 • 201-627-7917	3.0	-	5.0	7.0	2.0	1.5	2.0



Ratings Summary — Training Packages

RETAIL UNIT PRICE (\$)	FUNCTION	USER INTERFACE				OPERATING SYSTEMS SUPPORTED				MEMORY REQUIRED (Bytes)	COPY PROTECTED	FIRST DELIVERY	NUMBER OF INSTALLATIONS		
		Menus	Function/Special Keys	Control Keys	Online Help	Command Language	PC-DOS	MS-DOS	CP/M-80	CP/M-86	Other				
50	Introduction to programming in BASIC, how to use VisiCalc, and how to understand IBM Manuals	— — — — —					• — — — —					64K	No	1983	5,000
145	Provides structured environment for the development of skills in BASIC and spreadsheet programs	• • — — —					• • — — —					64K-196K	No	1983	5,000
165	Provide practical instruction to develop successful writing style	— • • — —					• — — — —					64K	Yes	1983	200
95	Acquaint beginners with the IBM PC and introduce them to various types of programs	— • • — —					• — — — —					128K	Yes	1983	INA
95	Provide computer-aided instruction on database manipulation	• • — — —					• — — — —					INA	Yes	1983	INA
NC	Provides a basic introduction to the IBM PC, its keyboard, OS, and BASIC programming language	— • — — —					• — — — —					INA	No	1983	INA

