

Siemens 7.800 Series Product Enhancement

Siemens has recently announced a new entry-level model in its 7.800 series. The 7.860 is available in three models—the E, L and R. The 7.860 E Uniprocessor System contains one CPU, one Main Storage Unit and one Channel Processor with eight channels. This model can be upgraded to either a 7.860 L or a 7.860 R. The 7.860 L has two CPUs and two Channel Processors, giving 12 (optionally 16) channels, and the 7.860 R has two complete Uniprocessor Systems. Models E and L additionally include a Service Processor, a workstation and a printer which operates at 200 characters-per-second, and the 7.860 R includes two of each of the three components.

Main memory of the 7.860 models extends from 4 MB in the basic 7.860 E to a maximum of 32 MB in the 7.860 R. Memory increments are of 4 MB in models E and L, and of 8 MB in model R.

A 7.860 Processor System includes the following components:

- CPU with 32 KB of buffer storage;
- Main Storage Unit (MSU) which uses 64 K-bit MOS chips;
- Channel Processor (CHP) which provides block- and byte-multiplexor channels;
- Service Processor (SVP) which manages communications between the operating system and the operator.

The 7.860 E is termed a Uniprocessor System, comprising one CPU, one MSU, one CHP and one SVP in addition to one workstation and one 200-cps printer. The model has a basic main memory capacity of 4 MB which can be increased to 16 MB. The CHP supplies one byte multiplexor channel and seven block multiplexor channels.

The 7.860 L is a Dyadic Processor System which contains two CPUs, one MSU, two CHPs, one SVP, one workstation and one 200-cps printer. The MSU has a minimum storage capacity of 8 MB which can be increased to 24 MB. Two block multiplexor channels and ten byte multiplexor channels are standard on the 7.860 L; the two CHPs can optionally support four additional block multiplexor channels.

The 7.860 R Multiprocessor System is a duplicated Uniprocessor System and as such comprises two CPUs, two MSUs, two CHPs, two SVPs, two workstations and two 200-cps printers. The system has a minimum storage capacity of 8 MB which can be increased to 32 MB. The two CHPs provide a total of 16 channels of which two are block multiplexor channels and fourteen are byte multiplexor channels.

SOFTWARE

The software which runs on the 7.860 is the same as that used by the other models in the 7.800 series. The major operating system is the BS3000 from Siemens, but the IBM operating systems OS/VS1, MVS and VM are also available.

RELATIONSHIP TO CURRENT PRODUCT LINE

The 7.860 is part of the Siemens 7.800 Series and extends the range at the lower end. There are now 16 models in the series. The 7.860 runs the Siemens 7.800 operating system, BS3000, and is compatible with the other 7.800 models; as such it is also IBM compatible.

COMPETITION

The competition to the 7.800 Series comes from IBM and other PCMs. The 7.860, specifically, is intended to compete with the IBM 4381. The 7.860 E and the IBM 4381 Model 2 have comparable performance levels while the Model E sells for approximately 25% less than the IBM machine.

PRICING

The basic 7.860 E with 4 MB of main memory and eight channels costs 855,600 DM.

The basic 7.860 L with 8 MB of main memory and twelve channels costs 1,401,200 DM.

The basic 7.860 R with 8 MB of main memory and sixteen channels costs 1,711,200 DM. □