

Zentec Cobra Video Display Terminal



The Cobra is Zentec's smart video display terminal for OEMs and system integrators. The terminal is modularly designed, consisting of three separate components: the CRT module (available with 12- or 15-inch screen); the logic module; and the keyboard. The display module is mounted on a ball and joint mechanism, enabling the user to tilt or swivel the display for the most comfortable viewing position. The keyboard is detached.

MANAGEMENT SUMMARY

Zentec Corporation is one of the terminal industry's leading suppliers of customized smart and intelligent terminals to OEMs and system integrators. The Cobra, introduced in April 1982, is a smart terminal featuring the company's new ergonomic housing design first implemented on its 8000 Series intelligent terminals.

The Cobra consists of three separate modules: the CRT module, available with 12- or 15-inch screens; the logic module, housing an 8-bit microprocessor; and the detached, typewriter-style keyboard. The CRT modules are fully interchangeable (requiring no special tools), and connect to the logic module via a ball and joint attachment that provides the display with 20 degrees of tilt and 60 degrees of swivel.

The standard display capacity of the Cobra is 1920 characters, arranged in 24 lines of 80 characters each. A 25th line for display of status information is provided. The Cobra is also configured with two full pages of display memory. Video attributes, selectable in any combination, include normal, dim, reverse, blink, underline, and blank. Edit features available include insert/delete character and insert/delete line, plus erase features.

The Cobra's keyboard features a typewriter-style layout, with a main key array, 14-key numeric pad, 12 special

Zentec's ergonomically-designed smart display terminal.

The Cobra features modular construction, and is available in 12-inch or 15-inch screen sizes. The unit's keyboard is detachable. Standard display capacity is 1920 characters, arranged in 24 lines of 80 characters each, plus a 25th status line. The display can be tilted or swiveled for operator comfort. Data can be transmitted in character or block mode.

Zentec sells its terminals chiefly to OEMs and system integrators. The Cobra is priced at \$938 in quantities of 100 or more for the 12-inch version; the 15-inch model is priced at \$1,125, also in quantities of 100 or better.

CHARACTERISTICS

VENDOR: Zentec Corporation, 2400 Walsh Avenue, Santa Clara, CA 95050. Telephone (408) 727-7662.

DATE OF ANNOUNCEMENT: April 1982.

DATE OF FIRST DELIVERY: April 1982.

NUMBER DELIVERED TO DATE: Information not available.

SERVICED BY: Zentec and distributors.

CONFIGURATION

The Cobra is a stand-alone, smart video display terminal. The unit consists of three separate modules: the CRT module, available in 12- or 15-inch screen sizes; the logic module, housing an 8-bit microprocessor; and the detached keyboard. The CRT module is attached to the logic module on a ball and joint mechanism, providing the display with up to 20 degrees of tilt adjustment and up to 60 degrees of swivel adjustment. The 12- and 15-inch display modules can be interchanged without the use of special tools, and without requiring special training. The typewriter-style keyboard is attached to the logic module via a four-foot long coiled cord.

TRANSMISSION SPECIFICATIONS

Transmission is asynchronous, in half- or full-duplex modes, at switch-selectable speeds from 110 to 19,200 bits per second. Character length is 7 or 8 bits. Odd, even, or no parity is switch-selectable. An RS-232-C or 20mA current loop interface is standard.

An RS-232-C serial printer interface is also provided, with switch-selectable transmission rates from 110 to 19,200 bps.

DEVICE CONTROL

The Cobra operates in both conversational (character-by-character) or block transmission modes. Data can be transmitted as characters, lines, complete screens, or fields

Zentec Cobra Video Display Terminal

▷ purpose edit/function keys, and 16 program function keys (shiftable to provide 32 functions). The keyboard is attached to the logic module via a four-foot coiled cord.

Data can be transmitted in character or block modes, at speeds up to 19,200 bits per second. A monitor mode is standard for debugging purposes.

The Cobra is designed to accommodate a number of custom options, such as custom keyboards, firmware, or software. □

▶ within a protected screen. A monitor mode is provided to facilitate system debugging.

Video attributes, selectable in any logical combination, include underline, blink, normal, reverse, half-intensity (dim), and blank (non-display for security purposes). Erase features include: clear page with nulls; clear unprotected page with spaces; clear page with protected spaces; clear to end of page with nulls; clear to end of page with spaces; and clear line with spaces. Editing features available include insert/delete character and insert/delete line.

The Cobra provides two full pages of display memory (48 lines of 80 characters each). A scroll feature is provided to view the contents of memory. The display format provides an extra (25th) line for the display of error messages and system status messages. A self-test mode is also provided, for automatic verification of the memory, keyboard, and communications interface.

The unit's keyboard provides a separate numeric pad, 12 special purpose edit/function keys, and 16 program function keys. Cursor control keys are provided that move the cursor up, down, left, right, and home. The 16 function keys may be shifted to provide 32 separate functions.

The Cobra's serial printer interface provides for the attachment of a buffered printer for hard copy output. This secondary interface provides transmission speeds which are independent of the terminal's communications interface,

allowing concurrent operation at different speeds. Background printing modes available on the Cobra allow concurrent printing and keyboard data entry under host control.

COMPONENTS

CRT DISPLAY UNIT: The Cobra's display unit consists of two separate modules: the CRT module and the logic module. The CRT module is available in two screen sizes: 12-inch and 15-inch (measured diagonally). Both CRT modules provide a screen capacity of 1920 characters, arranged in 24 lines of 80 characters each. A 25th status line is also provided. Characters are displayed in green (P31 phosphor) on a dark background, and formed utilizing a 7-by-9 dot matrix in a 10-by-10 cell. The standard character set consists of 128 ASCII symbols.

The logic module houses an 8-bit microprocessor, providing 16KB of RAM. The CRT module is joined to the logic module via a ball and joint mechanism, which provides the display with up to 20 degrees of tilt capability, and up to 60 degrees of swivel capability. The display screen itself features a direct etch, non-glare finish.

KEYBOARD: The Cobra's keyboard contains 103 keys, arranged in a 61-key main array, 14-key numeric pad, 12-key special purpose edit/function key array, and a row of 16 program function keys. Cursor control keys are included in the 12-key special purpose array. The function keys are shiftable to provide the user with 32 separate functions.

All frequently-used keys are auto-repeatable. The keyboard is detached, and connected to the logic module via a four-foot long coiled cord.

PRICING

Zentec video display terminals are marketed primarily to OEMs and system integrators. The Cobra, available for purchase only, is priced at \$938 with the 12-inch CRT module, in quantities of 100 or more. With the 15-inch CRT module, the purchase price is \$1,125, in quantities of 100 or better. Service is provided through Zentec or third party distributors. ■