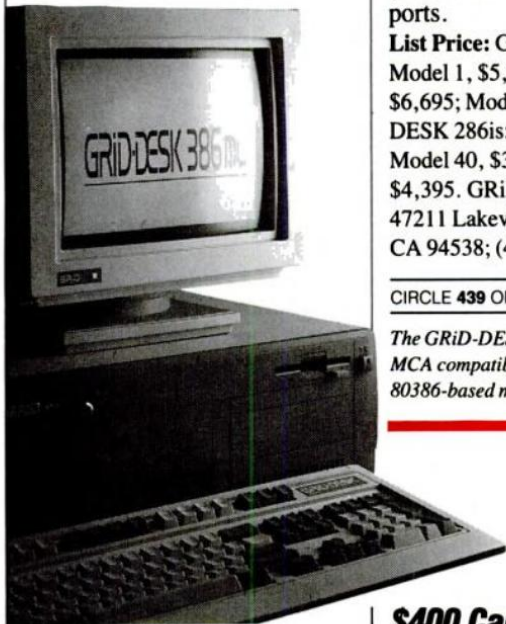


## NEW ON THE MARKET

by Lori Grunin

**GRiD Throws Hat into Desktop Ring with 386 MCA, 12-MHz AT**

GRiD Systems Corp.'s first foray into the world of desktop computing consists of two computers manufactured by Tandy



(\$3,895) and Model 80 (\$4,395). You can expand the standard 1MB of RAM to 14MB.

All models of both systems come equipped with an 8-bit VGA card, a 3½-inch high-density drive, a socket for an Intel math coprocessor, and serial, parallel, mouse, and printer ports.

**List Price:** GRiD-DESK 386mc: Model 1, \$5,295; Model 40, \$6,695; Model 80, \$7,195. GRiD-DESK 286is: Model 1, \$2,695; Model 40, \$3,895; Model 80, \$4,395. GRiD Systems Corp., 47211 Lakeview Blvd., Fremont, CA 94538; (415) 656-4700.

CIRCLE 439 ON READER SERVICE CARD

*The GRiD-DESK 386mc offers MCA compatibility in a 20-MHz 80386-based machine.*

Corp., GRiD's parent company: the GRiD-DESK 386mc, a 20-MHz 80386-based Micro Channel machine, and the GRiD-DESK 286is, a 12-MHz AT compatible.

2MB of 120-nanosecond SIMMs, expandable to 16MB, and a 32K cache populate the 386mc's motherboard in its standard configuration. The GRiD-DESK 386mc Model 40 (\$6,695) and Model 80 (\$7,195) contain 40MB and 80MB SCSI hard disk drives with 19-millisecond access times: buyers of the Model 1 (\$5,295) can choose their own drive and controller combination.

Five slots—two proprietary 32-bit and three 16-bit—facilitate expansion. The drive controller occupies one slot in the Models 40 and 80.

The GRiD-DESK 286is Model 1 (\$2,695) features six expansion slots, four 16-bit and two 8-bit. As with the 386mc, you lose one 16-bit slot to the drive controller in the Model 40

**\$400 Camera-Board Combination Digitizes Gray-Scale Images**

As an inexpensive alternative to an elaborate TV camera and frame-grabber board setup, **Electrim Corp.** offers the \$400 EDC-1000, a small camera, 8-bit half-card, and software combination that captures and digitizes images with up to 256 shades of gray.

The software allows you to control exposure and frame-scanning time as well as integrate multiple images to compensate for a low signal-to-noise ratio. You can save images in either .PCX or TIFF file formats.

To help customize the C-based program, Electrim provides routines compatible with Turbo C, Microsoft C, Turbo Pascal, and BASIC that can be linked to the software. A \$160 1½- to 75-millimeter zoom lens is optional.

**List Price:** Electrim EDC-1000, \$400; zoom lens, \$160. **Requires:** 256K RAM, graphics adapter,



*You can buy a \$160 zoom lens to capture images up close and personal with the Electrim EDC-1000.*

DOS 2.1 or later. Software not copy protected. Electrim Corp., P.O. Box 2074, Princeton, NJ 08543; (609) 799-7248.

CIRCLE 442 ON READER SERVICE CARD

**Two Ways to Convert VGA to NTSC**

If you love the presentations you can generate with your computer but hate being tied down to the system when displaying your handiwork, two products that convert VGA signals to VCR-recordable output may be your ticket to freedom.

**US Video's** \$785 Recordable VGA board generates an NTSC (National Television Standards Committee) composite signal, as well as VGA output at resolutions of up to 1,024 by 768 pixels by 16 colors.

If you just want to convert your VGA card's signals into NTSC output, **Jovian Logic** of-

*(continues on page 52)*

**HOT PROSPECT**

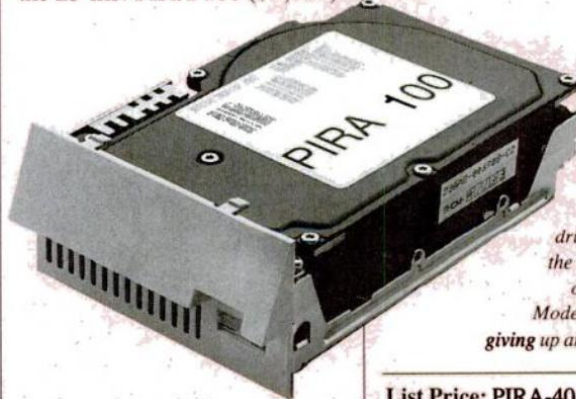
**Zero-Slot IBM PS/2 Model 30 286 Replacement Drives**

If you've wanted to replace the small, lethargic IBM hard disk drive in your PS/2 Model 30 286 but are unwilling to sacrifice one of your precious three expansion slots for the necessary controller card, **Procom Technology** may have the drive you've been waiting for.

The company offers 40MB and 100MB drives, the 28-millisecond PIRA-40 (\$895) and the 25-ms. PIRA-100 (\$1,895).

path and has an average data transfer rate of 218K per second, the PIRA drives take advantage of the AT-bus's 16-bit data path and achieve an average data transfer rate of 1MB per second. Both of Procom's drives have a 1:1 interleave, compared with the IBM's 2:1 ratio.

Procom includes all the hardware needed for installation.



*Procom Technology's PIRA hard disk drives let you boost the storage capacity of your IBM PS/2 Model 30 286 without giving up an expansion slot.*

Both 3½-inch disk drives have embedded controllers that use 2,7 RLL encoding and obviate the need for an expansion slot.

In contrast to the IBM disk drive, which uses an 8-bit data

**List Price:** PIRA-40, \$895; PIRA-100, \$1,895. **Requires:** IBM PS/2 Model 30 286. Procom Technology Inc., 200 McCormick Ave., Costa Mesa, CA 92626; (714) 549-9449.

CIRCLE 436 ON READER SERVICE CARD