

## New & Improved

### American Mitac Offers Micro Channel 386SX-based System

NEW

With Intel's 386SX chip rapidly becoming an attractive and cost-effective alternative to both its aging cousin, the 286, and its powerful older brother, the 386, many PC vendors are rushing to bring new SX-based machines to market. American Mitac Corp.'s \$2,995 Mitac MPS2386 offers a new twist; featuring Micro Channel architecture, it is one of the first machines to compete directly with IBM's new PS/2 Model 55.

The Mitac MPS2386, in its standard configuration, comes complete with 1MB of 100-nanosecond RAM (expandable to 8MB); a 1,024 by 768 enhanced Super VGA graphics adapter; six expansion slots; parallel, serial, and mouse ports; one 3½-inch 1.44MB floppy disk drive; and MS-DOS 3.3. The company also offers OS/2.

Also available as options are 3½-inch 40- and 100MB hard disks, retailing for \$650 and \$1,375, respectively (a disk controller lists



American Mitac's 386SX-based MPS2386 computer features Micro Channel architecture.

for an additional \$69). Both disks are installed internally, leaving room for two half-height 5¼-inch storage devices.

**List Price:** Mitac MPS2386, \$2,995. American Mitac Corp., 410 E. Plumeria Dr., San Jose, CA 95134; (800) 648-2287, (408) 432-1506 (in Calif.).

CIRCLE 438 ON READER SERVICE CARD

### FaceCard Facilitates Background File Transfers

NEW

What do you do when it absolutely, positively has to be there overnight? The \$699 FaceCard will let you send and receive documents, data, or any other sort of information automatically, without PC power.

Face Technologies' communications board fits into any slot on an IBM PC or compatible machine. The software allows you to schedule data transfers for designated times. An independent power supply enables background transfers, and the 256K on-board RAM stores the data until you are ready to download it to your hard disk. Transmission takes place via a 1,200- or 2,400-bit-per-second Hayes-compatible modem.

Since the data sits in memory, unauthorized users cannot access your hard disk, even if the PC is part of a network. The 8-bit board uses a 6-MHz processor and a continually recharging DC backup battery to protect data from loss or damage during a temporary power failure.

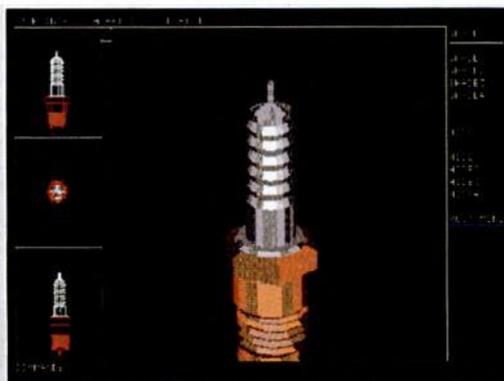
**List Price:** FaceCard, \$699. Face Technologies Inc., 3711 Plaza Dr., #1, Ann Arbor, MI 48108; (313) 662-8008.

CIRCLE 440 ON READER SERVICE CARD

## IMPROVED

**OS/2 Presentation Manager Toolkit**—The \$500 toolkit includes all the software and documentation needed for Presentation Manager application development. It consists of Softset, a collection of graphical tools for PM; four OS/2 Presentation Manager books; hypertext-based QuickHelp documentation; 3MB of sample code; and 2 hours of Microsoft OnLine electronic support. Each is also available individually. Softset retails for \$150 and includes a dialog box editor, font editor, icon editor, and resource compiler. The books, Volumes 1 through 3 of the *MS OS/2 Programmer's Reference Library* and *Programming the OS/2 Presentation Manager*, by Charles Petzold, range in price from \$19.95 to \$29.95; and the sample code and QuickHelp on-line documentation are available as a package to Softset owners for \$150. Registered owners of the earlier OS/2 Programmer's Toolkit can upgrade to the complete Presentation Manager Toolkit for \$200. Microsoft Corp., Redmond, Wash.; (206) 882-8080.

**DesignCAD 3D, Version 2.1**—American Small Business Computers has added more than 50 new commands and a number of speed improvements to its PC-based CAD system, including Boolean operators, automated slideshow production, enhanced zooming and shading, simulation of multiple light sources, improved mouse and hardware support, and the ability to create complex surfaces by use of patching and Webster algorithm blending. *DesignCAD 3D, Version 2.1*, retails for \$399. Current *DesignCAD*



Version 2.1 of *DesignCAD 3D* features new shading and zoom capabilities.

*3D* users may upgrade to the new release for \$35. American Small Business Computers, Pryor, Okla.; (918) 825-4844.

**BRIEF for OS/2**—*BRIEF*, the program editor from UnderWare, is now available for OS/2. The new release, *BRIEF for OS/2*, contains all the features of its DOS counterpart, plus a few new ones. The package allows users to edit a program in the foreground while their compiler runs in the background under *BRIEF*'s control. If a compiling error occurs, *BRIEF* will alert the user and display both the error message and the offending line of code. The new release also features a C-like macro language syntax, in addition to the Lisp-like syntax found in the DOS version. *BRIEF for OS/2* is a character-mode application and has a retail price of \$195. Owners of *BRIEF for DOS* can upgrade for \$145. UnderWare Inc., Boston, Mass.; (800) 343-7308; (617) 267-9743 (in Mass.).

**MapInfo, Version 4.0**—The latest release of MapInfo's desktop mapping package supports Novell's *NetWare*-based LANs, allowing multiple users to simultaneously access maps and data. Each user can create separate overlays for a common map, while file locking and edit-transaction files protect data integrity. The package also contains a number of new features, including a database of 5-digit ZIP codes, user-defined symbols and icons, an extended character set suitable for foreign-language applications, auto-save, and ten

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