

POINT 4'S MIGHTY MUX: EFFICIENT MULTI-USER SUPPORT

The essential characteristic of a multi-user business computer system is its ability to handle a large number of workstations. POINT 4 Data Corporation's Mighty MUX* DMA multiplexer combines that ability with speed and flexibility to achieve a high degree of efficiency. POINT 4's Mighty MUX is the cornerstone of a cost-effective business data processing system.

The role of a multiplexer is to act as a traffic cop in managing the flow of information between the central processing unit and the many users of the system at their workstations. The key to the effectiveness of the Mighty MUX is its ability to relieve the central processor of the burden of managing this chore. This frees the processor to concentrate on its primary purpose: processing data to yield results in the form of vital business information.

MIGHTY MUX FEATURES

- Direct memory access (DMA) results in maximum performance
- Expandable from 8 to 128 ports
- Handles individual line speeds up to 19,200 bits per second
- Supports character-at-a-time or block mode transmission
- Line characteristics under software control
- EIA RS-232C (CCITT V.24) or 20, 40 or 60 mA current loop compatible
- Compatible with virtually any POINT 4 or other NOVA*-type computer system
- Connects to a broad spectrum of industry-standard video display workstations and serial printers

HIGH PERFORMANCE

The speed and efficiency of the Mighty MUX are a result of its direct memory access architecture.

With DMA, the Mighty MUX manages the communications overhead of the system then transfers data directly to and from the computer's memory. This allows the central processor to continue with its function in parallel and simultaneous with the communications flow.

FLEXIBILITY

The basic Mighty MUX handles eight asynchronous workstations or printer ports each at speeds up to 19,200 bits per second. And it is compatible with a very broad range of industry-compatible video terminals and serial printers to provide the user with the flexibility to configure a system more precisely to his requirements. In particular, it supports POINT 4's Electronic WorkStations.

EXPANDABILITY AND COMPATIBILITY

The basic Mighty MUX supporting 8 ports can be expanded easily to handle up to 128 ports through the addition of one or more 8-, 16-, or 24-port expansion modules. The Mighty MUX and its companion expansion modules are packaged on 15-inch square printed circuit boards. These industry-standard designs allow them to be integrated with members of POINT 4's family of multi-user computers or virtually any NOVA-compatible system. This offers the value-added reseller and user alike the opportunity to expand the effectiveness of a business system by adding ports and users in easy, economical increments.

EFFICIENCY

The inherent high performance in the DMA design of the Mighty MUX is further enhanced



