

Data: Where and when you need it.

5280

**IBM 5280
Distributed
Data System**

IBM

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High-function at the source



Now there's a high-function family of modular IBM products that offer new opportunities for intelligent data capture at your sources of input.

The IBM 5280 Distributed Data System lets you bring "computer intelligence" to places where important customer data is generated—at the locations where your people understand the data and how it's used.

With the IBM 5280, you can economically install intelligent data terminals and printers in the same building, across town or across the country—in departments, offices, factories and warehouses. Consider the IBM 5280 for any location where data has to be collected, validated, edited or even printed on the spot—then sent to the host computer.

But that's only part of the story. The IBM 5280:

- Supports multiple work stations and multiple applications concurrently
- Allows diskette-stored information to be hand-carried, mailed or transmitted via low-cost batch communications to a host computer or other IBM systems
- Provides a range of hardware products—including programmable control units, data stations, plus character printers—to meet a variety of user requirements
- Offers IBM-written software—including an Assembler language, Data Entry/RPG programming language, sort/merge facility, plus processing and communications utilities—to easily implement and design a system to meet specific needs
- Provides key entry utilities for the simple installation of transcriptive key entry applications.

Another plus: The IBM 5280 provides significant growth opportunities to IBM 3740 users with improved price/performance. Your people can utilize features and advanced functions to help simplify the data entry operation, reduce the turnaround time in getting data processed—and improve accuracy and control.

A look at the system

The IBM 5280 contains a modular group of products that can be designed into a system with the memory size, diskette storage capacity and communications capabilities needed to meet individual requirements.

Programmable control units. Users have a choice of single or dual keyboard/display table-top models. Both types contain up to two integrated diskette drives—and can support up to four keyboard/displays depending on the model. The single station unit supports one printer plus the communications capability.

A floor-standing control unit supports up to eight diskette drives and facilities for attaching up to four keyboard/displays and four printers plus the communications capability.

These microprocessor-based units support multiprogramming, or the concurrent execution of two or more programs. They control the data entry, storage, processing, printing and data communications functions of the system. They have computer logic capabilities—so they can check, validate and edit data before it gets to your host computer or other business locations. They can overlap printing and keying. And they can be programmed by the user.

Data stations. Single as well as dual keyboard/display units are available—and each can contain one or two diskette drives for storing data. The IBM 5280 is especially useful for high-production transcriptive key entry environments. Two operators can key onto their own diskettes at the same time—and both have access to their own data displays.

IBM 5280 data stations are similar in appearance to table-top programmable control units. They can perform the same data entry functions when attached to a programmable control unit in a clustered intelligent data entry environment.

Printers. Users have a choice of multiple character printers. Table-top models offer high-quality printing at speeds of 40, 80 or 120 characters per second.

Main storage. IBM 5280 programmable control units contain an integrated processor with high-speed memory for storing the commands and procedures needed to enter and process data. Table-top units come with 32K to 64K bytes of main storage. Floor-standing models offer memory capabilities from 32K to 160K bytes.

Diskette storage. Two types of compact diskettes may be used with the IBM 5280 for up to .25 or 1.2 megabytes of information storage per diskette. A table-top programmable work station can support up to 4.8 megabytes of online diskette storage. A floor-standing unit can support up to 9.6 megabytes of online diskette storage.

The diskettes used in the IBM 5280 are compatible with diskettes used in other IBM computer systems. As a result, information can be exchanged offline between systems in your organization by either mailing or hand-carrying the diskettes.

Communications capabilities. The IBM 5280 offers the capability to communicate with the IBM 3740, the IBM System/3, System/32 and System/34 via binary synchronous communications (BSC). Plus: the System/360, System/370, 3031, 3032, 3033, 4331, 4341, or another IBM 5280 system via synchronous data link control (SDLC) or binary synchronous communications (BSC).

Users have the ability to transmit and receive information over standard telephone lines. An auto answer capability lets the IBM 5280 receive a station-to-station telephone call to transmit or receive data. With this capability, your communications costs can be kept to a minimum.



**One system,
multiple uses**

The IBM 5280 Distributed Data System has a wide spectrum of uses.

For example, it can be used in local and remote high-volume transcriptive key entry environments. An RPG data entry language offers a full-function transcriptive key entry capability. This facility provides a format language for simplifying the data entry operation—and offers extensive edit and validation functions to help operators capture information efficiently and accurately—before processing it in the host computer.

You can also use the IBM 5280 as a remote batch or remote job entry terminal system at outlying locations in the organization to capture and transmit data for processing—as well as receive processed data from the host computer for on-site printing and/or storage.

In addition, you can use the IBM 5280 as a single or multiple keyboard/display intelligent terminal system with single or multiple printers in a distributed processing environment. The IBM 5280 system performs extensive data edits and sorting, and can be programmed for file lookup and complex arithmetic functions during the data entry operation at both local and remote locations.

**Distributed processing—
at a reasonable cost**

The concept of distributed processing is not new. Simply stated, it is a direction that seeks to provide better business results by decentralizing some part of an organization's data processing operations.

Distributed processing with the IBM 5280 offers new opportunities to economically distribute certain data entry and processing functions to local and remote sites—to help simplify the operation and reduce operating costs.

With the IBM 5280 system, you can place a single station or a clustered intelligent data terminal system in the accounting department to record time card entries and print actual payroll cheques. In a remote sales office to enter orders and verify customer information. Or in a warehouse to key up-to-the-minute information receipts, as well as print picking lists.

In addition, distributed processing with the IBM 5280 gives you an economical way to:

- Develop a communications network in conjunction with your host computer—while placing equipment and computing power at local and outlying locations for intelligent data entry, standalone computation, application development and special information storage
- Move day-to-day collection of data closer to the source—without sacrificing centralized control and interchange of information
- Improve the quality and timeliness of input generated at local and remote locations.



**Greater accuracy,
improved service**

With the IBM 5280, all data is entered via keyboard/display stations. Information can be displayed to alert the operator—and to give the status of the work in progress.

“Menu” screens allow the operator to easily select jobs to be performed. And data entry screens can be formatted to resemble a customer’s standard operating forms for quick and efficient data entry.

There are edits and checks in the system to reduce the effort needed to locate and correct mistakes. When the system finds an error, an appropriate error code is displayed—and the keyboard locks out additional entries until that error is corrected.

The result: Many of the costly errors can be detected before they are passed on and repeated. This improves your operation by reducing the time required to correct errors. And fewer errors can result in better customer service.



**A variety of information—
for those who need it**

IBM 5280 users can retain data files on diskettes that are of most concern and use to them—even while forwarding to the host computer either full or summary data from these files.

This means that your personnel can have access to decision-making business data that is generated and stored at the source of entry. You can call this data up at any display station—as well as have a report printed on demand right in your offices.

Diskette files can be shared across multiple users at a local or remote IBM 5280 location. And built-in security features let you control which data station each employee may use, if you want.



Getting the most from your system

IBM 5280 programs are designed with the emphasis on ease of use and simplicity.

The System Control Programming (SCP) diskette, for example, provides facilities to start the IBM 5280 and put it to efficient use. This facility makes it easy to tailor the 5280 to individual user requirements.

The IBM 5280 is also supported by a Data Entry/RPG language. This high-level language makes the system easy to implement—and provides simple access to the extensive editing and programming capabilities of the IBM 5280.

Additional programming support includes an Assembler language—which is designed to help IBM 3740 Application Control Language (ACL) users migrate to the IBM 5280 system.

In addition, a print utility helps perform standardized printing functions. Communications utilities are also available for tailoring communications job functions and simplifying the transfer of data over a communications line.

A sort/merge program is available for sorting or merging inputs into one output in either ascending or descending order. This program provides additional flexibility for designing IBM 5280 applications by the customer.

In summary

With the IBM 5280 Distributed Data System, you and your organization can:

- Decentralize data capture—putting the operation in the hands of the people who are familiar with the data that needs to be collected
- Solve the costly problem of getting data from your people to the host computer
- Speed and simplify data entry—increasing operator satisfaction, streamlining paper work and improving customer service
- Generate more accurate data from source documents at their point of origin
- Enhance the capabilities of current IBM 3740 users with multiprogramming, extensive editing functions and improved ease of use features
- Create, maintain and use data files at the end user location
- Adapt a data entry system to specific user applications—as well as offer end users a modular system to grow with and meet changing requirements
- Establish an economical distributed processing network that brings the capabilities of source data entry and computer intelligence to local and remote locations.

Contact your IBM General Systems marketing representative. Ask about the training and education courses—plus the reliable service support—provided by IBM for 5280 system users. Find out how you can purchase or lease the IBM 5280 to improve your data entry and data processing requirements.



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