

## Honeywell Bull DPS 7000 Series

### Product Enhancement

Honeywell Bull has introduced three new, powerful models to extend the DPS 7000 growth path. The move puts the product line in head-to-head competition with the new IBM 4381 models. The new DPS 7000 systems are the two-processor Model 72, the four-processor Model 82, and the four-processor Model 92, bringing the total number of DPS 7000 mainframes to eight. The DPS 7000 line, introduced in April 1987, replaces the Honeywell Bull DPS 7/E line, which is no longer in production. In addition to hardware, the company ushered in two software products, Tempus-Link and Distributed Office Automation Services (DOAS), PC/mainframe connectivity products. Volume shipments of the new hardware and software begin this month.

Since the introduction of the DPS 7000 line, Honeywell Bull has favored more powerful models to expand the size of its medium-scale user. The company is heavily targeting health and manufacturing customers, two established Honeywell Bull market niches. The addition of new models now widens the overall performance range from the smallest to largest DPS 7000 model and gives users a longer migration path. The largest model now overlaps the performance of entry-level Honeywell Bull DPS 8000 mainframes. This is particularly beneficial to Honeywell Bull's largest DPS 7000 customers who need more power, but who may not want to migrate to Honeywell large-scale systems. Large-scale systems run under GCOS 8, while DPS 7E/7000 systems operate under GCOS 7. The two operating systems are incompatible, making migration to the larger operating environment difficult.

The DPS 7000 product line, manufactured in France by Groupe Bull, uses a redundant architecture, making it particularly suitable for on-line interactive processing. In addition to multiple processor configurations, the systems support dual-power subsystems and dual-system consoles. Besides hardware redundancy, the GCOS 7 operating system supports dynamic isolation, reconfiguration, and recovery capabilities. This increases system availability and accessibility, and protects data integrity.

The Model 72 two-processor system features 8 to 24 megabytes of memory, 128 kilobytes of cache memory, and 8 to 16 channels. Rated at 3.3 million instructions per second (MIPS), the Model 72 supports more than 600 concurrent users and can handle more than 61,000 transactions per hour, measured by the TP1 benchmark.

The four-processor Model 82 is rated at 4.8 MIPS and features 16 to 32 megabytes of memory, 256 kilobytes of cache memory, and 8 to 24 channels. The top-end Model 92 four-processor system features 16 to 32 megabytes of memory, 256 kilobytes of cache memory, and 8 to 24 channels. Rated at 8.1 MIPS, the Model 92 can support more than 2,500 users and can handle more than 122,400 transactions per hour. This is about twice the transaction processing speed of the former high-end DPS 7000, the Model 50.

While the lower end of the DPS 7000 line competes with the IBM System/38 and 9370 minis and superminis, the new additions compete squarely against IBM's newest generation of 4381 medium-range systems. MIPS ratings for the 4381 Models 22, 23, and 24 and the three new DPS 7000 systems are virtually the same.

The latest Honeywell Bull models are compatible with DPS 7000 Models 10 through 50. In addition, the Models 72 and 82 can be field upgraded to progressively larger models.

The models support the same peripherals that run on the DPS 7/E and smaller DPS 7000 models. Users can configure the new models with up to 96 gigabytes of disk capacity, up to 24 magnetic tape subsystems, and up to 1,020 communications lines.

Besides hardware, the company announced two software products. Tempus-Link permits PC files to be accessed by other PC users and by DPS 7000 programs. The files are shared and transferred between PCs and the mainframe. It also establishes "virtual disk" on the DPS 7000 Series, accessible through MS-DOS commands.

Distributed Office Automation Services (DOAS) allows documents produced by a PC-based word processing package to be transferred to a DPS 7000 host. There they can be filed, retrieved, distributed, or used for mass-mailing purposes. DOAS also provides electronic mail facilities across multiple mainframes using GCOS 7 linked by a Distributed Systems Architecture (DSA) network, Honeywell Bull's own networking architecture. This is done through an implementation of X.400 standards for Message Handling Systems.

## Honeywell Bull DPS 7000 Series Product Enhancement

A basic Model 72 with two central processors, 16 megabytes of memory, and eight I/O channels sells for \$326,600. A Model 82 with four central processors, 24 megabytes of memory, and eight channels sells for \$518,400. A Model 92 with four processors, 32 megabytes of memory, and 12 I/O channels sells for \$747,200. □