

MSWorks For The ZP-150

Briefcase Computers Come Of Age



Bill Gates
Microsoft Corporation

For the first time in history, technology allows us to put a full functional computer into a tiny lap size portable that costs less than \$1200. Microsoft was given the enviable assignment of designing a software for this hardware wonder. Our solution is a single integrated software package that gives you a full range of applications that work equally well together and independently.

Microsoft was in a good position to develop this package. With a broad range of software experience — from languages and operating systems to application software — we've looked at software issues from every angle. In fact, we helped define the standard for machines like the Zenith ZP-150 which run on the 8088 microprocessor.

The new Zenith ZP-150 is one of the most inexpensive lap portables on the market, yet one of the most powerful. It features a large 80 column by 16 line display that's as large as most desktop computers. Its built-in modem lets you easily transfer information by telephone. And the 32K bytes of memory give you enough room for the high-performance features you've grown to expect on your office or home PC. It makes an ideal productivity complement to a desktop computer. Although you'll need to offload files to another computer, the Zenith does the lion's share of the work all by itself.

In MSWorks, we've applied many of the same concepts that were used for the Microsoft family of desktop software, like Word for word processing, File for information management and Multiplan for calculation and numbers analysis.

A Package Of Powerful Application Software

The second common requirement is for a tool that can organize information, make calculations and analyze data. Multiplan's power stems from its ability to perform many calculations on large quantities of data quickly and easily. You'll find this version a very faithful implementation of our popular spreadsheet. You can answer the "what if?" questions that go along with budgets, projecting inventory and planning investments. With 255 rows and 63 columns, MSWorks Multiplan can handle almost any calculation, whether you're sitting on an airplane or at the kit-

chen table.

Use File to store, retrieve and process the information you enter. This program can handle something as simple as an address list or as complex as inventory, client billing and invoicing. Almost every busy person these days carries an appointment book.

With MSWorks' Calendar, your Zenith computer can record daily appointment and activities. It's ideal for accurate trip reports and it keeps you on schedule. You can set the alarm and, regardless of which program you're using at the moment, the computer will signal you by a display or a tone.

Telcom is your MSWorks link to the world. If you're searching for information, Telcom can use the built-in modem to call up mainframes, information services (like Dow Jones or CompuServe) or even your own PC back at the office. You can just as easily send information. Even when you're a thousand miles away from your desk, you can make a change to a contract draft and share them with your partner before the deal closes. It all happens in a matter of minutes — it's like being two places at once.

The MSWorks package also includes BASIC, a powerful, easy-to-use programming language, and a special system function key called CALC. It lets you suspend the program you're working in and use your computer as a calculator.

Integrated Software That Truly Complements Your Desktop Computer

A key element to make MSWorks truly functional is the System Manager. It lets you run each application program, exchange information between programs and manage the files you create. Integrating information between applications makes the individual programs even more useful. And when it is accomplished quickly and with little effort, the computer becomes a powerful productivity tool.

In developing MSWorks, we addressed three major areas of concern: interfacing, data movement and consistency.

Since portable computers complement desktop computers, MSWorks needed to be similar to desktop software. If you learn