System 30

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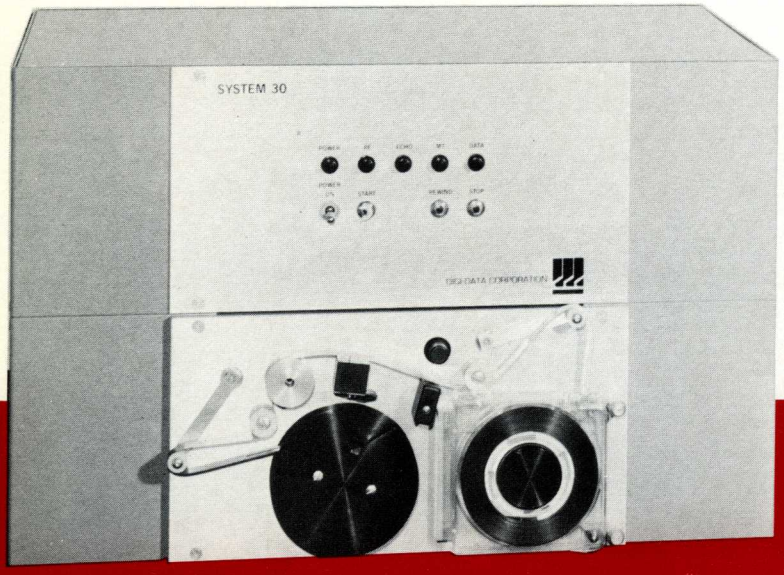
DIGI-DATA
SYSTEMS
THIRTY
THIRTY-ONE



SYSTEM 30
SYSTEM 31

INTRODUCTION

The Digi-Data Systems 30, and 31, are designed to provide a means for transferring information between the IBM Magnetic Tape Selectric Typewriter (MTST) and the computer. All of the units provide completely off-line conversion capability; that is they are not connected to the MTST or to the computer. Each System contains an MTST compatible tape unit, a computer compatible tape unit and control logic. The computer compatible tape unit can be supplied for either 7 track or 9 track format. An option is available to provide code conversion.

CODE CONVERSION OPTION

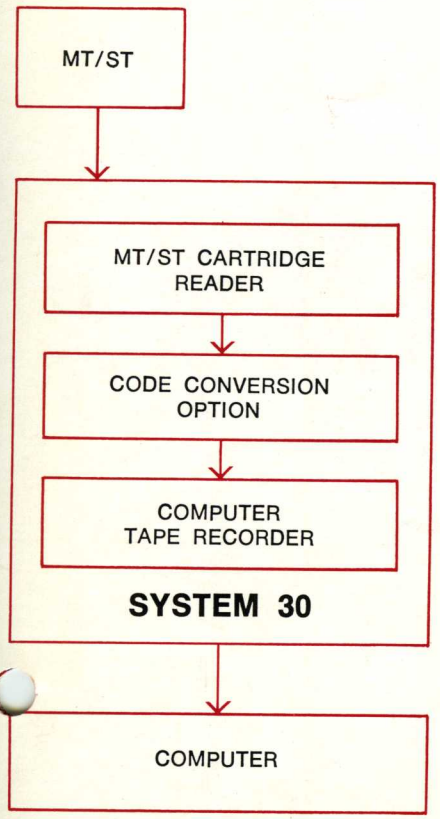
Since different MTST and MTSC code sets exist and since the user sometimes wishes to change MTST to computer tape code assignments, a plugboard code converter is offered as an option. This can be provided with the Systems 30 or 31. Any code of up to 8 bits can be converted to any other code of up to 8 bits. Thus the full MTST and full EBCDIC character set can be accommodated. The board is removable for quick change of codes.

SYSTEM 30

The Digi-Data System 30 converts MTST compatible tape to computer compatible tape. The information is transferred in MTST code image (9 track) or MT/DD code image (7 track) to the computer compatible tape. All possible MTST code combinations can be transferred. Each MTST cartridge is loaded on the System 30 by the operator. The unit searches for the beginning of the MTST tape and then transfers information to the computer tape. The computer tape record length is set at 200 characters. Physical records of 200 characters each can be recombined in the computer to form actual logical records or character strings.

All of the MTST codes except the first "feed" code and the characters in the "reference code" are transferred to the computer tape. Upon sensing either a) three consecutive "stop" codes, b) blank tape, or c) the end of the MTST tape the MTST cartridge is automatically rewound. Conversion of a full 24,000 character cartridge including tape rewind takes about 4 minutes.

The code conversion option allows the user to write data on the computer tape computer code.



Systems Applications

GRAPHICS INPUT (System 30)
Data prepared and edited on the MTST can be input to CRT printers through the System 30 converter. The upper/lower case capability, typewriter convenience, correction convenience and hard copy output of this approach makes it attractive. User experience has shown that the arror rate is extremely low. Errors introduced by the System 30 are practically non-existent.

COMPUTER FILE MAINTENANCE (System 30)
Data can be prepared directly at its source for computer entry. As a by product of business transactions the computer file data is prepared by the originator rather than through a key punching operation. This is especially significant for data containing alphanumerics.

AUTOMATIC LETTERS USING COMPUTER FILE DATA (System 31)
Files such as name and address and current balance can be maintained easily on the computer. This information can be converted by a System 31 to MTST compatible tape for two tape MTST automatic letter writing applications such as fund appeals, accounts receivable or purchase order receipts overdue.

TEXT PREPARATION WITH MTSC (System 31)
Computer data can be output through the System 31 for publishing via the IBM magnetic tape Selectric Composer. The capability and versability of the computer and MTSC can be combined for special printing operations.

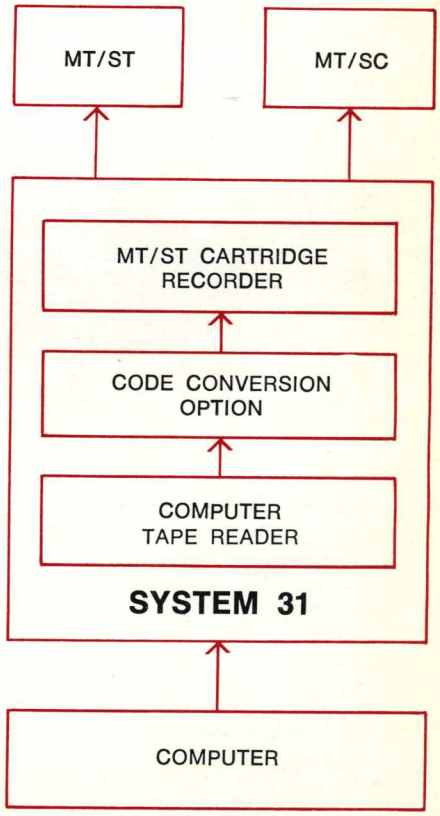
LONG TERM DATA STORAGE (System 30, System 31)
Large files of data generated on the MTST can be placed on computer tape for long term storage. The computer is used to update files and generate back-up tapes for information security. The computer in combination with the System 31 is used to locate and re-generate the MTST cartridge when the information is again required.

SYSTEM 31

The System 31 converts computer compatible tape to MTST compatible tape cartridges. The information is transferred, code for code, except as noted below. The MTST tape is written in MTST code. The computer tape must be in MTST image or, with the code conversion option, in EBCDIC or any other suitable code (ASCII, etc.) The operator loads the computer compatible tape and an MTST cartridge. Information is transferred until either a) 3 successive stop codes on computer tape or b) the end of the MTST cartridge or c) an end of file on computer tape is detected. Each MTST cartridge is automatically rewound. Subsequent cartridges can be mounted until the end of file on computer tape is detected. Reference codes are inserted on the MTST tape upon detecting a designated character (Ex. auto search code) on computer tape.

Feed codes and a reference code are automatically inserted at the beginning of each cartridge. The computer compatible tape must be blocked into 200 characters or shorter records.

The code converter is available as an option.



HIGHLIGHTS

- MTST to magnetic tape, or magnetic tape to MTST tape
- Compact table mounting unit
- Complete loading, conversion, rewind and unloading of full MTST tape in less than 4 minutes
- Operator action required for the following conditions: Load and unload MTST tape; load and unload computer tape; restart if parity error
- Fully computer compatible tape including Beginning of Tape (BOT) erasing, Inter-Record Gap and End of File (EOF) insertion
- Automatic MTST tape rewind upon sensing 1) End of Tape or 2) End of File or 3) blank tape
- Reference code inserted for selected code on computer tape (System 31)
- Code conversion option
- First Feed Code and Entire Reference Code not recorded on computer tape (unless specified otherwise by customer at time of order). All other codes are recorded on tape unless suppressed by use of the code conversion option.

SPECIFICATIONS

POWER—115V, 60 cycle, 4 amps.

SIZE—2 units 20″ x 20″ x 12″ each

WEIGHT—80 lbs. total

CONVERSION TIME—Approximately 4 minutes per cartridge for full conversion including rewind

COMPUTER COMPATIBLE TAPE UNIT

NUMBER OF TRACKS & DENSITY—9 Track 800 BPI. 7 Track 556 BPI optional

TAPE DESCRIPTION—½″ wide, 1.5 mil thick computer grade 800 BPI full width tested

REEL SIZE—8½″, 1200 ft.

BEGINNING OF TAPE ADVANCE—Front panel switch

END OF FILE MARK GENERATION—Front panel switch

CODE—Image of MTST tape code or any other standard code (code conversion option)

SWITCHES:

- POWER ON/OFF, RECORD, REWIND, READ
- BOT—Beginning of Tape position
- EOF—End of File insertion

INDICATORS—Power

MTST COMPATIBLE TAPE UNIT

TAPE DESCRIPTION—Standard MTST cartridges with sprocketed MTST tape

BEGINNING OF TAPE DETECTION—Automatic upon actuation of start switch

END OF TAPE DETECTION—photosense

REWIND—Automatic upon sensing end of tape or end of file (3 successive stop codes)

CODE—MTST tape code or any other (code conversion)

CONTROL UNIT

SWITCHES

- POWER—On/Off
- START—Start Conversion
- STOP—Stop Conversion
- REWIND—Rewind MTST tape (normally the tape is automatically rewound)

INDICATORS

- POWER
- DATA—Writing correct data
- PARITY ERROR ON MTST TAPE
- PARITY ERROR ON COMPUTER TAPE
- COMPUTER TAPE BROKEN OR NOT LOADED

CODE CONVERSION OPTION

PLUGBOARD CODE CONVERTER—Removable board. Eight level to eight level code conversion.

DIGI-DATA CORPORATION
4315 Baltimore Ave., Bladensburg, Md. 20710 • (301) 277-9378