



**Shepherd INFORMATION
System APPLIANCES**

January 2021



**Shepherd
System**



system

Introducing the Data Desk...

Expo 2020 was a feast for the mind and senses, filled with new global technologies, methodologies, art and architecture, culture and cuisine. Shepherd System workers from around the world were there to show off community projects and coalition initiatives. One demonstration at the Shepherd Hexadecagon never failed to grab attention and elicit comments—our front desk! The data desk, an initiative from our researchers at Cybersyn, is an aesthetic delight, but also a functional powerhouse. A glass-topped 92-inch “touch screen” incorporates the latest in liquid crystal display breakthroughs, allowing users to manipulate data on a configurable field of “frames”.

“Where’s the keyboard? Where’s the puck?” came that gruff voice the Cybersyn R&D team know so well, “¿Como lo usas?” None other than *Dr. Emilio Flores* was tapping the glass suspiciously, looking for data ports.

The Cybersyn team was honored (if a little nervous) to demo to Dr. Flores. “Touch keyboards can be created as needed on the surface,” a junior researcher chimed, demonstrating for the doctor.

“Where are the BOOKS,” answered Dr. Flores, “how do you BOOTSTRAP?”

“Books are all neatly kept in a drawer hidden in the side,” answered the researcher proudly, depressing a hidden panel in the side of the desk, a drawer filled with perfectly fitting, multicolored documentation and manifest tomes slid out silently.

“YOU GOT TO SHOW THE BOOKS, comrade,” replied Dr. Flores, pointing at the researcher’s chest, “BOOTSTRAP. How do we learn to use it when we start by knowing NOTHING? You Cybersyn people always pushing Bonsiepe designs. This is not Star Trek, it is a tool that must be used!”

Chastened, the researcher nodded obediently.

To the delight of the other attendees, the Data Desk will be available for public requisition in March of 2021. To the consternation of Dr. Flores, the hidden drawer will not be replaced by a visible bookshelf until the next production refresh... in 2022.



Shepherd Term

For thirty years the Shepherd Standard Terminal has been the primary information appliance of computers, information scientists, librarians and culture workers worldwide. Peripherals include a light-pen pointing device or jog/shuttle puck, and either a full-key wireless keyboard or a pair of Steno 4-key chording keyboards. A built-in 5 1/4" floptical drive is available as a built-to-order option for some industrial applications. Shepherd Term is *the* name in reliability, speed, and elegance. Available in walnut, cherrywood, or carbon fiber enclosures.



"It's a rock!"

"In my career as a public computer, my Shepherd Term has been a constant companion! In fifteen years I've only needed service *once*. And that was to replace a light-pen I had forgotten behind my ear and lost on the maglev metro!" - **Augustina Blythe, Senior Computer, Department of Energy, RSA**



Shepherd Tower

REQ #: S-004764-S5-00321

At Your Service...

The Shepherd Tower manages and executes jobs for thousands of simultaneous users, and it's neigh-indestructible. Our service people have seen towers running uninterrupted for over two decades now, including many which survived the great earthquake.

Each tower's manifest book is a treasured story of community use, and our enclosures display manifests and documentation proudly in several different configurations. We also offer secure storage shelving solutions for additional documentation (see our library catalog for many more!)



CAD Volumetric Display

REQ #: P-056741-P5-00112



Milk Crate Modular system

REQ #: S-004764-S5-00321

Engineering, Design, and Simulation

It's Magic.

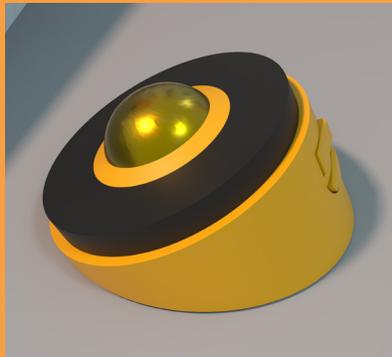
There's never been anything quite like the combined visualization power of a volumetric holographic display, a 3d puck, and the Milk Crate modular computing cluster system. Now engineers, systems theorists can enter the third dimension, with scalable computational power, even disconnected from the Shepherd System network.

More Milk Crate nodes means more parallel computing power. The 3d puck allows you to manipulate designs naturally in 3d space with ease. Requisition a crate and you'll see. It's magic! Volumetric displays are a new technology that allows graphics to be shown in 3d space and viewed from multiple angles.

Milk crate nodes work without a 3d display, or any display at all for that matter. They're multipurpose processing devices that can even be used to create a local instance of a Shepherd network.

They're fireproof, radiation and fluid resistant, and have backup power that will last for several months in optimal usage conditions. Carnegie Mellons' Computing cluster incorporates approximately 2000 Milk Crate nodes and several hundred Pipsqueak terminals for dorm and library use.

What's the black book? This is a special manifest that relates to the Milk Crate's fuel cells, which could be potentially dangerous to future civilizations if not bootstrapped appropriately. The black book assists in ensuring these cells are prepared for the future.



3D Puck

REQ #: P-024364-P2-00220



Pipsqueak

REQ #: S-004764-S5-00321

The pipsqueak is a portable microterminal, complete with floptical drive and fully integrated with the Steno chording keyboard. Work in places you never imagined before with all the ease and speed of a Shepherd Standard Term!



Where's the manual?

The Pipsqueak may be too small to have its own shelf but you can rest assured it comes with both a manual and a manifest.

Memex Forever?



Not many among us are old enough to remember the ubiquity of the Memex system before the revolution. However there are still many Memex devices in use. Shepherd system continues to fulfill Memex service agreements signed in the revolution's aftermath, designed to ensure records continuity. We are especially proud of this Steno chording keyboard and flatscreen retrofit of a 75 year old Memex desk at the Cassablanca Institute of Technology. This desk was once used by the great mathematician *Dr. Anouar Deriche* and continues to be used by students today.