

interfaces with a PDP-8/L minicomputer. DEC developed the software and will market the whole system with custom programing. Price should be around \$50,000.

KEV has applied for a patent on the operating-frequency test technique. The diode under test is placed in an oscillator phase locked to a reference oscillator controlled by a standard diode. These oscillators are swept together over the tuning voltage range while the voltage needed to keep the phase-locked oscillator on frequency is compared with up to 10 standard test curves stored in memory to find the best match. The system can match these curves to  $\pm 0.1\%$ .

In addition to tracking, the system also can test other parameters: DEC is developing software for testing leakage current, breakdown voltage, and forward voltage. KEV and DEC expect the system to test up to 10,000 diodes an hour when used with an automatic handler or wafer prober.

#### For the record

**Lonely.** While conventions have had a tough year in 1970, a new low may have been reached by the Eascon Conference Oct. 26-28 in Washington. Despite efforts by the sponsor, IEEE's Aerospace and Electronic Systems group, to broaden the subject matter, Eascon ended up being—as one engineer wryly described it—a wake for the military aerospace business.

Only 300 registered, and this included better than 85 authors and session chairmen. Attendance was less than half of last year's, which was in itself disappointing.

Exhibitors rattled around in one of the Sheraton Park Hotel's halls. Only 12 companies exhibited over and above the six military and NASA exhibitors that got in free. With virtually no attendees on the floor by early afternoon, fed-up exhibitors decided to close the hall two hours early one day, and four hours early on the last day.

**Moves.** It's musical chairs time at Fairchild Semiconductor again;

this time in the MOS group. A few weeks ago, Robert J. Schreiner, ex-general manager of Fairchild's Systems Technology division, was brought in as MOS marketing manager. Harry Neil, MOS and memory marketing manager until then, was due to move into MOS operations to fill the spot vacated when Jack Gates was let go. (Gates had been described as the man who made Fairchild MOS work.)

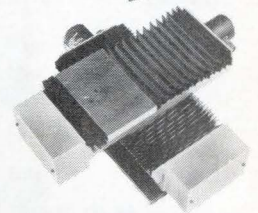
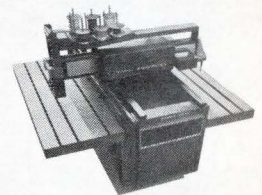
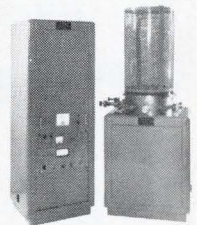
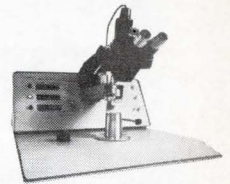
But Neil has moved to Intersil Memories Inc. in Cupertino, Calif. And with all the cuts in both people and money at Fairchild these days, Neil may have worked out the best deal of all. He's back in MOS and he's back in marketing.

**Laser meets ultrasound.** The first of a group of acousto-optic diffraction devices has arrived from Zenith's Acousto-Optic Development Group. It's an intensity modulator that uses interaction of laser light and ultrasound and operates over the entire visible and near-infrared spectrum. In operation, sound waves pass through the laser light beam, diffracting a portion of the light and causing it to change direction. Applications include read-out displays, laser beam communications for deep space, short-link video-rate communications, low-resolution scanner, doppler-shift optical frequency modulator, and video film and microfiche recording.

**Glavin in.** William Glavin, a 15-year veteran of IBM who came to Xerox Data Systems last April as executive vice president, is the new president in the wake of the abrupt resignation of Dan McGurk. McGurk left the company with no announced plans, and at a time when the firm's phenomenal growth has flattened out.

McGurk said earlier this year that XDS 1970 sales would, at best, be even with last year's \$125 million; the former Scientific Data Systems had been growing at a rate of 25% to 30% in recent years. Glavin's appointment could signify a speedup in Xerox Data System's plans to go after the business computer market.

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