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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WORKSLATE FROM CONVERGENT TECHNOLOGIES

SIMPLIFIES BUSINESS TASKS

SANTA CLARA, Calif., August 22, 1983--The first of a family of micro-portable computer-based products that simplifies specific business tasks without the user's having to know about computers was announced today by Convergent Technologies Inc.

The product, called WorkSlate, is from a new Convergent Technologies division--Advanced Information Products--formed last year to develop microportable equipment for the business consumer market.

WorkSlate combines portable computing power, information storage, integrated business programs for specific tasks and familiar desk-top tools like a calculator, calendar, address book and telephone in a package small enough to fit in a briefcase.

The new product is being introduced in the American Express Christmas catalog and is aimed at the business professional market--an estimated 30 million executives, managers, small-business owners, consultants, analysts, and sales and service representatives.

"We are proud to have a company of American Express' stature to serve as our introduction channel," said Matthew Sanders, vice president and

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general manager of Advanced Information Products. "Most American Express cardholders are business professionals, and this quality group fits the profile of the most likely users of WorkSlate. They want a special-purpose business tool that they can use anywhere to do the work they now do with pencils, erasers, calculators and telephones, without a lot of fuss."

A New Approach

WorkSlate is the result of a change from traditional computer product development. Instead of beginning with a general-purpose computer and adding software to turn it into a dedicated, useful tool, WorkSlate starts with the user's need and a defined task and uses computer power to make that task easier to perform.

WorkSlate gives the user a microcomputing tool for preparing financial forecasts, budgets and cost estimates, among other business tasks; for organizing and directing corporate projects; for communicating with colleagues and clients, and for managing appointments and travel schedules.

Convergent Technologies' new product uses integrated electronic worksheets, called "Taskware," for easily formatting information and data to prepare a wide variety of business and financial reports. Information is organized in a rows and column format, which supports the entry of numbers, words and formulas. The user can enter information into an organized framework and change that information at any time. The worksheets also have "what-if" capability--analyzing and forecasting results from information keyed into the WorkSlate.

WorkSlate also serves as a tape recorder, calculator, speaker phone, automatic dialing phone and connection to other computers and data bases and as an "electronic" notebook for appointments, phone numbers and reminders

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WorkSlate Features

WorkSlate measures 8 1/2 inches by 11 inches by 1 inch and weighs less than 3 1/2 pounds. It uses an 8-bit processor, which requires only battery power, has a typewriter keyboard and calculator pad, liquid crystal display screen showing 46 characters by 16 lines and an optional MicroPrinter.

WorkSlate provides 64 kilobytes of read-only memory (ROM) and 16 kilobytes of random-access memory (RAM), or the equivalent of 12 pages of information.

Price and Availability

WorkSlate is priced at \$895 and will be available in limited volume through the American Express Christmas catalog. In January 1984, WorkSlate will be available through retail channels.

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