

Votrax[®] Talking Points

OFFICES:
 FRAMINGHAM, MASS.
 (617) 879-3274
 TROY, MICHIGAN
 (313) 588-2050
 NEWPORT BEACH, CAL.
 (714) 557-9181
 HOUSTON, TEXAS
 (713) 777-7171

VOL. 4, NO. 6

ANNOUNCING...THE VSK PHONEME SYNTHESIZER KIT

TROY, Michigan — A new phoneme synthesizer kit, the VOTRAX[®] VSK, for the electronics and computer hobbyist and small systems user is being introduced by the VOTRAX Division of Federal Screw Works, developers and producers of state-of-the-art voice response systems.

This unique kit, which is designed to be used with a microprocessor, combines unlimited vocabulary, operational simplicity and low data requirements to provide the ultimate in flexibility.

The VSK is programmed to speak based on phonetic coding principles, which enable it to produce all combinations of words and phrases. The use of phonetic coding permits the production of speech at low data rates, offering continuous speech at 20 characters/second and easy interfacing to any microprocessor system with an eight bit parallel output.

The VSK is also compatible with the programming of the VOTRAX commercial VS-6 systems which provide support for vocabulary development.

Fully assembled, the VOTRAX VSK single circuit board is less than 36 square inches in size. It utilizes standard power supplies of +5 and ±12 volts.

The kit is currently available from The Digital Group, P.O. Box 6528, Denver, Colorado 80206, Phone: (303)777-7133; or on an OEM basis from the VOTRAX Division of Federal Screw Works, 500 Stephenson Highway, Troy, Mich. 48084, Phone: (313)588-2050.

COMPUTERIZED CASH CONSOLIDATION SYSTEM

A southeastern businessman with 11 manufacturing facilities discovered he had access to \$4.5 million nearly two weeks sooner using First National Bank of Birmingham's computerized cash consolidation system with voice response. With this system, collected funds are generally available within one day, which in some cases previously took several days or even weeks to consolidate. The availability of such amounts of cash can represent as much as \$300,000 a year in additional revenue for a company.

Basically the system gathers and processes data on cash deposits made in local banks at distant locations, then consolidates this information for use by a central bank. Thus, credits for collected funds can be posted to a client's consolidation account hours after cash receipt, rather than days or weeks later.

By knowing the amount and location of cash in its possession, a company can hope to capitalize on a wide variety of short term investment opportunities to earn additional revenues, or pay off existing loans and decrease interest costs.

The applicability of a computerized cash consolidation system is far reaching since many companies have geographically scattered business locations. First Birmingham, for example, services retailers, a wholesale parts distributor, a supermarket chain, an appliance company and a large conglomerate.

VOTRAX[®] is the synthesized human voice of General Electric's computerized Telephone Information Processing Service (TIP) which serves as a computer terminal for data entry into GE's remote computing network. Using a standard push button telephone, the user gets a spoken answer from the remote computing service which processes the bank's cash consolidation program. VOTRAX requests data from the user and speaks answers resulting from computer processing.

For example, one customer, a retail outlet manager, reports the daily deposit he makes in a local bank to First Birmingham, via toll-free telephone number available 24 hours a day. The retailer telephones the computer and responds to VOTRAX "voice" requests for input data. VOTRAX asks the retailer's company identification, location code and deposit amount. After each item is entered, it is repeated by the computer voice so the retailer can determine if it has been received correctly.

The computerized cash consolidation system automatically produces depository transfer drafts for the amount of branch location deposits to local banks. It also provides a means for branch locations to report those local deposits. In this way, all of the company's funds are automatically concentrated in one bank account.

continued

DISTRIBUTORS AND REPS:
 Computer Products Unlimited
 Gaithersburg, MD
 (301) 840-9524

 #####
 #####

SWITZERLAND
 Siemens-Albis Ag
 01-542211

EUROPE
 Dr. Otto Soskuty
 06121/46 38 22

CANADA - Electronetic Systems Ltd.
 Toronto (416) 661-3673 Ottawa (613) 733-3781
 Montreal (514) 342-4112 Vancouver (604) 687-5696

COMPUTERIZED CASH CONSOLIDATION SYSTEM (continued)

A company treasurer no longer has to keep track of a multitude of small deposit balances and he can automatically obtain an extensive series of reports. Paperwork problems that could delay transfer clearings are virtually eliminated and there is very little chance of error. In addition, the system lets the company's management know almost immediately which locations are not reporting, which could reflect a problem.

Customers also can use the TIP telephone inquiry to determine their company's total deposit amount each day after all locations have reported, with VOTRAX reciting the results to them.

According to Michael W. Underwood, Commercial Loan Vice President of First Birmingham, Alabama's largest commercial bank, the system is well worth their initial development cost, which amounted to less than \$2,000 and is now running at a break-even cost to the bank. The service has helped to further project First Birmingham's modern image, and as a result, they have cemented close relationships with a number of clients which has helped increase business for the bank in other areas. More than \$25 million each month is cleared through the system, which is administered by one person in just a half hour a day.

VOTRAX produces high quality electronically synthesized speech. It is designed to convert the output of a computer or other digital device into electronically synthesized human speech. This conversion from digital information is accomplished through a unique, patented electronic design which produces words and phrases using phonemes, the basic sounds which make up spoken language. The system produces the phonemes and integrates them together with inflection to produce smooth, intelligible speech.

This new voice response technology offers operational simplicity and low data requirements to provide the ultimate in flexibility and cost effectiveness. A complete range of interface types and options makes VOTRAX compatible with most conventional computer and communications equipment.

General Electric's Information Services provides complete teleprocessing and remote batch computer services to business, industry and government through its worldwide Mark III[®] Service remote computing network. Mark III Service is available in more than 400 cities in the United States, Canada, Western Europe, Japan and Australia.

GE's TIP was the first nationwide service to utilize the VOTRAX digital voice synthesizer for voice output. In the TIP system, the VOTRAX unit translates 8-bit computer codes into 63 different voice sound particles, each varied by four possible inflections. These sound particles are linked together to form words and sentences. Since the voice is not pre-recorded, an extensive vocabulary is available.

APPOINTMENT

I am pleased to announce the appointment of Mr. Leonard Magnuson as Director, Marketing and Sales. As a result of this appointment, our sales and marketing effort will be centralized and expanded at the Troy, Michigan location. Though the East Coast office will be closed, we believe that the centralization of our expanded resources will effectively support our many and long-term customers.

A.R. Lubienski
General Manager

DIVISION NAME CHANGE

Due to our product and market expansion, Vocal Interface Division has been renamed, effective September 1, 1977, as VOTRAX Division of Federal Screw Works. We believe that this change more effectively describes our current and future position in the market place.

For additional information, contact:

VOTRAX Division of Federal Screw Works, 500 Stephenson Highway, Troy, Michigan 48084

Name _____

Company Name _____

Address _____

City, State _____ Zip _____

VOTRAX SPEAKS YOUR LANGUAGE