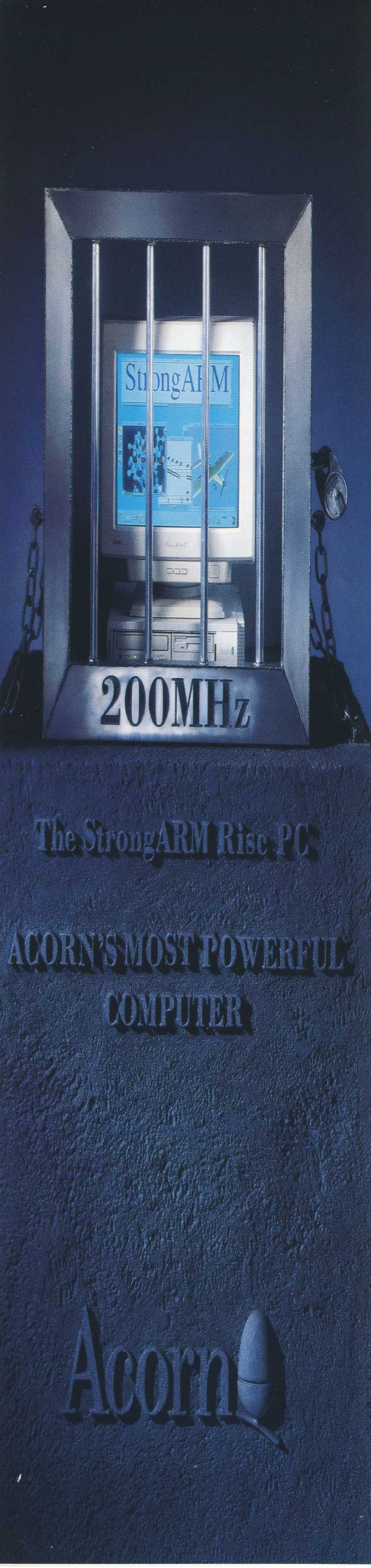# PC Cards

- Runs Windows and DOS software

- Range of different cards available

- Easy movement of text, graphics and data between RISC OS and Windows

The PC card enables Risc PC owners the best of both worlds, with the power and elegance of RISC OS running on the 32 bit Risc architecture of the ARM processor, coupled with the software compatibility offered through running DOS and Windows native on a 486 or 5x86 processor.

The architecture of the Risc PC is designed specifically to support second processor cards. This is achieved through a bus mastering technology that allows the second processor run simultaneously with the main ARM processor. This technology gives the PC card full access to all the hardware resources in the Risc PC, including memory, hard and floppy drives, CD, 16-bit sound system, network interface and I/O. So a Risc PC with a PC card can load and run all Windows applications and CDs. The PC card plugs into the second processor socket on the RISC PC motherboard, and can thus easily be upgraded as new PC cards become available.

Running both the StrongARM and 486 or 5x86 processors simultaneously within the Risc PC has a number of advantages over and above the simple sharing of the computer's resources. ART has developed the PC Exchange application that provides a seamless bridge between RISC OS and Windows. This bi-directional pipe between the two worlds allows quick and easy movement of text, images and data, allowing the user to choose the most effective tool from either RISC OS or Windows for the particular computing task in hand. Text, images or data dropped onto the PC Exchange window in RISC OS, and are then converted into the appropriate form, and appear on the Windows clipboard. Similarly when something is copied onto the Windows clipboard, it appears in a suitable form on the PC Exchange window ready for dragging and dropping into other RISC OS applications.

Technical Specification

PCB   Integrated PCB that fits into the vacant second processor slot on the Risc PC motherboard. Size 90mm x 110mm

Second Processors   Range of different models according to the DOS or Windows performance required.
    TI 486 SXL microprocessor running at 33MHz
    TI 486 DX2 microprocessor running at 66MHz
    TI 486 DX4 microprocessor running at 100MHz
    IBM "Blue Lightning" 5x86 microprocessor running at 100MHz

Secondary cache   128k secondary cache is provided by the custom interface ASIC that bridges between the 486 or 5x86 processor and the Risc PC's Open Bus

Software   !PCx86 application is supplied on 3.5" floppy disc. Runs the PC card as a RISC OS desktop compliant application either in multitasking mode within a RISC OS window, or in single tasking mode as a full screen application. PC card may be halted at any time

Configuration   !PCconfig application is supplied on 3.5" floppy disc, allows the user selection of parameters of the PC environment including:
    Memory allocation
    Display resolution
    Hard drive space allocation
    Had drive partition selection
    Floppy disc boot action on startup
    Connection to I/0 world

Sound   16-bit sound system of the Risc PC appears as a standard 16-bit sound card to the PC card enabling the playing of .wav files for multimedia titles.

Operating System   All PC cards are supplied with IBM PC DOS version 7.0 on 3.5" floppy discs together will full user guide

Software compatibility   Runs DOS and Windows applications. Some PC applications that interface directly with the PC hardware may not run.

System requirements   Risc PC system
8MB of RAM minimum
For MPC titles a CD-ROM drive is required