News From Acorn Computers

Acorn Previews Peer-to-Peer Networking Prototype at Acorn World '93

Visitors to Acorn World '93 will be able to get a first public glimpse of Acorn's new entry level networking technology for the Archimedes range of 32-bit RISC OS computers, being previewed at the show and scheduled for commercial release early in 1994.

The easy to use, peer to peer networking capability, which will form part of Acorn's Universal Networking portfolio, AUN, will offer an easy move into networking in the Acorn environment. Designed specifically for people who are taking their first steps into networking, the technology will allow any number of Acorn Archimedes machines, with at least 2 MB memory and running RISC 3.1 or later, to be connected in a peer to peer network, and will enable transparent sharing of hard discs and printers whilst maintaining a consistent RISC OS look and feel to applications.

Although Acorn's new networking technology will be available across all its target markets, it will be particularly suitable for small businesses and is destined to be especially welcome in the classroom:

"Acorn will be able to offer an easy route into networking to those schools which are just starting to consider linking machines," said Peter Talbot, Acorn's General Manager, UK Education.

"It's so easy to install and use that schools can get up and running very quickly, yet because it is designed as part of Acorn's wider AUN strategy, IT coordinators can be confident that, as their organisation's needs change, so Acorn will be able to support their development requirements into the nineties and beyond. Moreover, the ability to share hard discs and other peripherals means schools can tailor their own networks to provide the right mix of resources to accommodate their specific requirements."

Because Acorn's entry level networking capability will be based on current Ethernet technology it will offer high performance at low cost. As part of the AUN family, networks created with the new development will be easily upgradeable to incorporate more sophisticated networking technologies as users' needs grow.

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