NEWSWATCH

Suppliers Slash Prices of 486-based Systems

DESKTOP PCs based on the Intel 486 chip can now be found at almost bargain basement prices as computer makers push to make the Pentium chip the new corporate standard.

486-based PCs of last year can now be picked up for as little as 50% cost as the 486 chip becomes the industry entry level for the desktop.

Only a year ago most of 486 would have been considered suitable only for "power users" within companies, now they are entry-level systems.

The price cutting will continue during the next few months as makers get rid of old PCs, paving the way for newer Pentium PCs. Intel is eager to make the 486 redundant and make the Pentium chip both the entry level and a high-end choice for users.

Next year the 486 chip may well have vanished and the 60 and 66 MHz Pentium chips will be regarded as "entry level". ❏

Digital Unix

Digital Equipment Corp. has received a license from X/Open Co. Ltd. allowing it to use the name Unix for its version of the Unix operating system. The company announced that the system, formerly known as DEC OSF/1, will now be called Digital Unix. The company plans to make X/Open branding for all its future versions of the Unix operating system, they said. Digital will also include the Common Desktop Environment (CDE), a user-interface standard for Unix, on all its Alpha workstations and servers running Unix, starting in the second half of this year. ❏

Mr. A. Mannan, Chairman of Computer World Multilink International Co. Ltd. recently attended the Distributors Conference in Singapore. The above picture shows Mr. Mannan (L) with Mr. Chiari, Country Manager, Asia Pacific, in the conference.
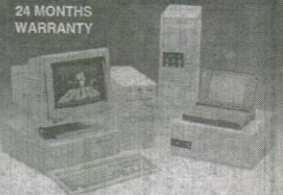

A VTECH seminar was held in Hong Kong on 25-27 April with VTECH distributors. The picture shows Mr. Parvez Ahmed Shamim, Managing Director of CompuTech Network System (Pvt) Ltd. of Dhaka presenting his paper. Mr. Shamim presented 9 research articles regarding VTECH marketing in SAARC countries.