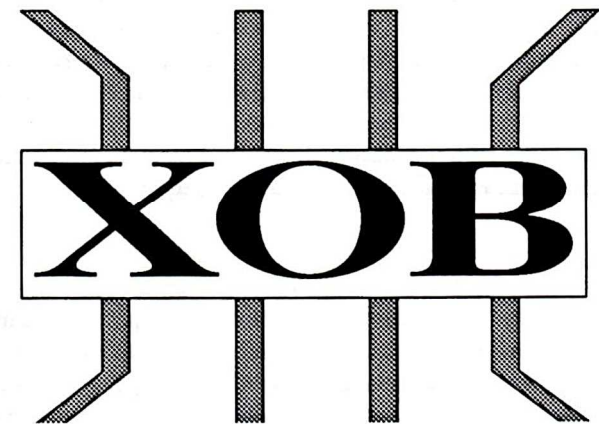# Application Notes 1991/92

(updated 11,91)

Psion Organiser

XOB have extensive experience in developing software and hardware for Psion, Z88 and Acorn computers and have software and hardware products in use across Britain and abroad. Existing customers can testify to our commitment to product support.

Please do not purchase goods from XOB unless you agree with these trading terms. It is a condition of sale of the goods that you accept these terms and receipt of an order for goods is taken as your agreement to these terms.

i.   Before release on the open market all XOB software is extensively tested in REAL operational conditions. If, despite this testing, any bug is discovered which is not due to a design deficiency in host computer system, customers will be offered corrected copies at no additional cost, as they become available.

ii.   If enhanced versions are released existing users will be allowed to exchange previous software for no more the price difference plus a small handling charge.

iii. The conditions of use of the software are outside our control. The diversity of equipment combinations upon which the software may be used is almost limitless. The software from other manufacturers and authors which may be used on the same systems as our own is also almost limitless. These factors combine to make it impossible for XOB to guarantee the results of the use of the software or the resulting side effects.

In particular we can accept no liability for expenses incurred or damaged caused through the use of our software or its presence on a computer system, its peripherals or storage media. It is a condition of the sale of the software that this is recognised by the purchaser.

iv. We can however offer to help purchasers should they meet difficulties in using our software and will make reasonable attempts to provide such help.

Trademarks

In order to describe products sold by us for use with equipment created by other manufacturers it is necessary to use trade marks which are the property of those companies. No infringement of the copyright on those trade marks is intended or implied. XOB observe all such trade marks. If anyone is aware of our unwitting infringement of such trade marks we will be grateful to receive notification so that corrective action may be taken.

Payment Terms

Private customers should send cash with order.
Education authorities and trade dealers may request goods by official order with payment within 14 days of invoicing.

This software allows you to cost and keep track of telephone charges with the minimum possible effort. Each facility is available at the press of only two or three keys.

There are fifteen national and twenty-two international charging rates. Not suprisingly this means that almost everyone tends to be ignorant of the true cost of calls and which calls contribute most to the final bill.

Telephone Assistant tells you the rate of your call BEFORE you make it and automatically takes account of the time of day and day of the week.

As you make the call it keeps you informed of the cost second by second and the duration of the call. You can see immediately when the cost of the call exceeds what you can afford and when you can afford to continue talking.

It provides these facilities :-

   i.   Automatically select correct telephone charge rate according to time for local and trunk calls.

   ii.   Overseas call rates automatically selected by country.

   iii. Keep track of cost and time as the call is progressing.

   iv. Store cost totals under separate accounts.

   v.   Find overseas dialing codes from internal database.

On completion of the call you can store the cost in one of a number of accounts (the number and names of these are decided by the user) and so attribute the cost appropriately to business or home, lodger or neighbour. At the end of an accounting period the records may be re-set for the next quarter.

If charge rates change your Datapak will be exchanged for an updated one for £2.90.

Videotape Manager is a program anyone can use, at home or at work, to reduce the frustrations of managing video or audio tape collections. Your video recorder and the videotape library it supports constitute a substantial investment. Videotape Manager allows you to realise the full potential of that investment, saving effort and money into the bargain. With Videotape Manager you can :-

Locate the exact amount of spare tape needed to record a program and be told the counter position at which it may be found.

Find any desired program, on any tape, rapidly and be told the counter position at which it is to be found.

Reduce wear on the recording heads

Produce printed lists of all your recordings.

Use more of your video-tape with less wastage.

Suitable for VHS, Super-VHS, VHS-C, Video-8, Hi-8, Beta and Audio recorders. May also be used by video enthusiasts for keeping track of stock shots during editing. By allowing all sizeable portions of free tape to be utilised it should save its cost many times over.

The number of tapes which can be handled is only limited by the storage capacity of the medium (RAM/Eprom) being used.

It is not possible to give exact figures for storage requirements since this depends on the number of items (programs, shots) to be indexed on each tape and the amount of detail required in descriptions. The following figures are thus approximate.

Assume 5 items per tape and a 20 character description of each item :-

16K = 70 tapes; 64K = 280 tapes, 512K = 2240 tapes

Assume 10 items pre tape and 10 character descriptions of each item :-

16K = 64 tapes; 64K = 256 tapes; 512K= 2048 tapes

Videotape Manager Two

This is only available for the Psion Organiser LZ models. It has all the facilities of VT Manager with the following additional features :-

Automatic counter conversion between several VCRs

Ability to use both non-linear and real-time counters

Tapes may be named as well as numbered

VCRs may be named

Quicker data access through the improved user interface available with a 4-line screen

Automatic conversion of tapes when one VCR is scrapped and replaced by another

This enhancements in this version make it particularly suitable for enthusiasts with several VCR's or audio machines and for professional users who need to use the same tapes on different machines.

The Psion is so compact that it can be used for entertainment during those idle moments when travelling, waiting for business appointments, or just for television adverts to finish.

This pack provides you with not just one but three word games. These can be played in such a manner that you can stop at a moments notice but are entertaining and addictive enough to fill in periods which would otherwise be dull and boring. Because the Psion retains its memory even when switched off the game can be suspended at any time and restarted when convenient.

By clever programming we have not only fitted three games into the datapak but a lexicon of hundreds of words. The games are :-

Hangman

An addictive version of the famous game which can now be played solo. Even beginners get a sense of achievement with this game but it requires considerable skill if good scores are to be achieved repeatedly. Although designed to be entertaining the game has educational benefits since it improves spelling, stimulates increased vocabulary and promotes a strong intuitive understanding of word endings and syllables. The ideal way to keep children occupied during those long car journeys, or adults amused whilst commuting.

Anagram

Another highly addictive game. The computer rearranges the letters of a word and you have to find the correct arrangement before your lives are gone. The game can be played by players of all standards because the target score can be increased as your ability improves.

Code

A very hard game for those in masochistic mood. You race against the clock to crack a letter displacement cipher. This really sharpens the wits. An ideal game to play whilst waiting for that important business meeting or career interview.

APF : (Acorn to Psion File Transfer)

This piece of software may be used on an Acorn computer linked to a Psion Organiser with the Psion RS232 link or 'Comms Link' (not supplied).

Using this software you may :-

    Send ANY file from Acorn Machine to Psion
    Send ANY file from Psion to Acorn machine
    Send OPL listings to and from the Psion
    Send MAIN and DIARY files to and from the Psion
    Convert Psion Main files to a form accessible by purpose written software
    on your Acorn machine.
    Convert Psion Main files to a form accessible by word-processing software
    on your Acorn machine.
    Convert material edited on a word-processor on your Acorn machine into
    Psion MAIN file format.

A file prepared on a word-processor on the Acorn machine may be moved to the Psion. Programs written on the Acorn machine in OPL (the Psion's programming language) may be stripped of control characters and transmitted into the Psion to be translated and run.

'Main' and other text files generated on the Psion may be sent to the Acorn machine for backup storage on disk or manipulation by packages which run on that machine. 'Diary' and other block files may be moved for backup storage or analysis on the Acorn Machine using user designed programs.

APF is compatible with Old and New Organisers, Old and New 'Comms-link'
BBCB, Master Series and Archimedes Computers

PODA : Psion Organiser Disassembler and Assembler

This package consists of software to disassemble machine-code programs which run on the Psion Organiser, and software to assemble machine code for the processor used by the Organiser. To facilitate both processes the software is written to run on a BBC/Master/ Archimedes computer so that word-processing facilities, keyboard and screen of that machine may be utilised.

The disassembler is for use on an Acorn computer. It allows Psion Organiser code transferred by the RS423 Link or Comms Link to be disassembled on a BBC/Master or Archimedes computer.

The assembler also runs on an Acorn computer and allows Psion Organiser code to be created on a that machine for later transfer to a Psion Organiser through the RS423 Link or Comms Link.
As far as is possible the assembler/disassembler mnemonics used are chosen to be similar to those used on the Acorn systems so that programmers familiar with those machines should have the minimum of problems in transferring their knowledge.

Psion related software product prices

APF (Acorn/ Psion File transfer)   £25.00 ex VAT   £29.38 inc VAT

We regret that, due to the high cost of eprom Datapaks , we are having to increase the price of software sold on this type of medium. To help customers who find the new prices too high we are we can put the software on to a datapak supplied by the customer.
The new prices are as follows :-

Item	On XOB datapak		On customer datapak	
	Ex VAT	Inc VAT	Ex VAT	Inc VAT
(a) WordGames :	£29-50	£34-67	£20-50	£24-09
(b) Telephone Assistant :	£29-50	£34-67	£20-50	£24-09
(c) VideoTape Manager :	£29-50	£34-67	£20-50	£24-09

(each of the above require 8K of space at least to be free on a Datapak)

(d) VideoTape Manager II :	£39-50	£46-41	£30-50	£35-84

(this requires at least 16K free on a Datapak)

NOTE :
Videotape Manager II is a professional version of VideoTape Manager. It allows for automatic conversion of counter values between several recorder/players. It can only be used on the Psion LZ series.

Psion related hardware product prices

	Ex Vat	Inc Vat
(a) Comms link	£52-13	£61.25
(b) BBC B/Master to Comms Link cable	£12-00	£14.10
(c) Archimedes to Comms link cable	£15-00	£17.60
(d) BBCB signal conditioner	£ 6-00	£ 7-05
(E) 16K Datapak	£16-00	£18.80

Please note :
Software is deliverd post-free within UK.
Comms link carries £6-00 packing/delivery charge (UK)

XOB, Balkeerie, Eassie, by Forfar, Angus. DD8 1SR