

New products

Components

Keyboard senses body capacitance

Contactless board contains ROM that provides up to four codes per key

A solid-state keyboard from Cherry Electrical Products Corp. senses body capacitance instead of an electrical contact closure, thus achieving a lifetime estimated by the manufacturer to be in excess of 300 million operations. Built around a custom LSI circuit from American Microsystems Inc. and a read-only memory from Cherry Semiconductor, the keyboard includes proprietary noise-rejecting circuitry that prevents false keying by invalid signals, according to Cherry officials.

The LSI processor scans the keys at a rate of one every 1.5 ms and, upon sensing a capacitive contact, sends the key's address to the ROM. There are actually four addresses per key for all but two of the keys. The address chosen is determined by the remaining two, which are referred to as the shift and control keys.

Paul Kollesar, keyboard product manager, notes that the unit is "designed to be altered by the user" and includes a variety of flexibility-enhancing features, such as the ability to accept additional ICs for connection to word-processing systems. Among the options custom

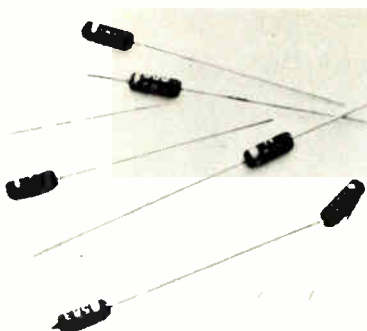
programming of the ROM provides are repeat functions for any or all keys and key rollover or lockout.

The basic CB80-12AA keyboard sells for \$135 in low-volume custom orders and has 95 keys. A version with an auxiliary 15-key numeric key pad and two additional user-labeled keys is also available under the designation CB80-07AA. Delivery time is 12 weeks.

Cherry Electrical Products Corp., 3600 Sunset Ave., Waukegan, Ill. 60085 [341]

High-Q varactor sports large tuning ratio

The ZC800 is a tuning diode, or varactor, that provides a large tuning ratio and a high Q. The tuning ratio is better than 5 to 1, with a nominal capacitance of 1.8 pF



at 10 v varying to 10 pF at 2 v. The high Q of the diode (300 measured at 50 MHz) assures good selectivity even at the upper end of the very high frequency band.

With a breakdown voltage rating



Finally. Fiber optics availability.

- AZ Base, Phoenix (602) 997-6194
Moltronics, Phoenix (602) 272-7951
- CA Moltronics, L.A. (213) 773-6521
Moltronics, S.D. (714) 278-5020
Moltronics, S. Clara (408) 244-7600
Western Micro, Cupertino (408) 725-1660
- CT Arrow, Hamden (203) 248-3801
C.C.I., Wilton (203) 762-8691
- FL Arrow, Ft. Lauderdale (305) 776-7790
Arrow, Palm Bay (305) 725-1480
Hammond, Orlando (305) 849-6060
- GA Arrow, Atlanta (404) 455-4054
- IL Arrow, Chicago (312) 893-9420
Camelot, Chicago (312) 583-5588
- MD Arrow, Baltimore (301) 247-5200
- MA Arrow, Woburn (617) 933-8130
Future, Natick (617) 237-6340
Lionex, Burlington (617) 272-9400
- MI Arrow, Ann Arbor (313) 971-8220
Camelot, Livonia (313) 591-0055
- MN Arrow, Edina (612) 830-1800
Stark, Minneapolis (612) 332-1325
- NH Arrow, Manchester (603) 668-6968
- NJ Arrow, Moorestown (609) 235-1900
Arrow, Saddlebrook (201) 797-5800
Mid Atlantic, Bellmawr (609) 931-5303
- NY Arrow, Farmingdale (516) 694-6800
Summit, Buffalo (716) 884-3450
Zeus, Elmsford (914) 592-4120
- NC Arrow, Kernersville (919) 996-2039
Hammond, Greensboro (919) 275-6391
- OH Arrow, Cincinnati (513) 761-5432
Arrow, Cleveland (216) 248-3990
Arrow, Dayton (513) 253-9176
- OR Parrott, Beaverton (503) 641-3355
- PA Arrow, Moorestown (215) 928-1800
Arrow, Pittsburgh (412) 351-4000
- SC Hammond, Greenville (803) 233-4121
- TN Arrow, Knoxville (615) 587-2137
- TX Arrow, Dallas (214) 386-7500
Solid State, Dallas (214) 352-2601
Solid State, Houston (713) 772-8483
- WI Arrow, Oak Creek (414) 764-6600
Parts Mart, Milwaukee (414) 276-1212
- CAN Future, Montreal (514) 735-5775
Future, Ottawa (613) 820-9471
Future, Toronto (416) 663-5563

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