

Development System. The Focus xvi™ minicomputer from Fairchild Camera and Instrument Corp, Fire Microcomputer Group, 464 Ellis St, Mountain View, CA 94042, is integrated with a 1M-byte dual-density IBM compatible floppy disc (expandable to 4M bytes) to form the basis of the system. A freestanding video display terminal and spooled 150-char/s bidirectional printer round out the system.

Focus xvi uses the company's Blaze-16 2-board minicomputer with Data General's Nova™ 3 performance; thus, users may develop applications software using the Nova instruction set. Focus xvi offers 64k bytes of dynamic RAM in a 9-slot chassis.

Assembled programs are up or down loaded into the target prototyping system over FIRELINK™. This RS-232-C communication link permits remote debugging and monitoring of execution of object code in the target hardware. With the addition of a modem/acoustic coupler, the link communicates with remote target systems or other Microflame development systems.

Hardware is supported by FIRE™ software, at a total system price of \$23,500. FIRE-IMDOS operating system provides file management, device independent I/O, and timesharing with user supplied peripherals; software for P-ROM formatting and burning is also standard. Added features are password protection, version number control for automatic tracking and backup during debugging, and spooling capability. Among the optional high level languages are BASIC, FORTRAN, and Pascal. Peripherals such as high speed readers, printers, P-ROM/FPLA programmers, modems, cartridge discs up to 10M bytes, and 80M- or 300M-byte storage modules. Circle 423 on Inquiry Card

### **Total Evaluation Board Explores Features Of 16-Bit Microprocessor**

Capabilities of the AmZ8000 16-bit microprocessor can be evaluated in

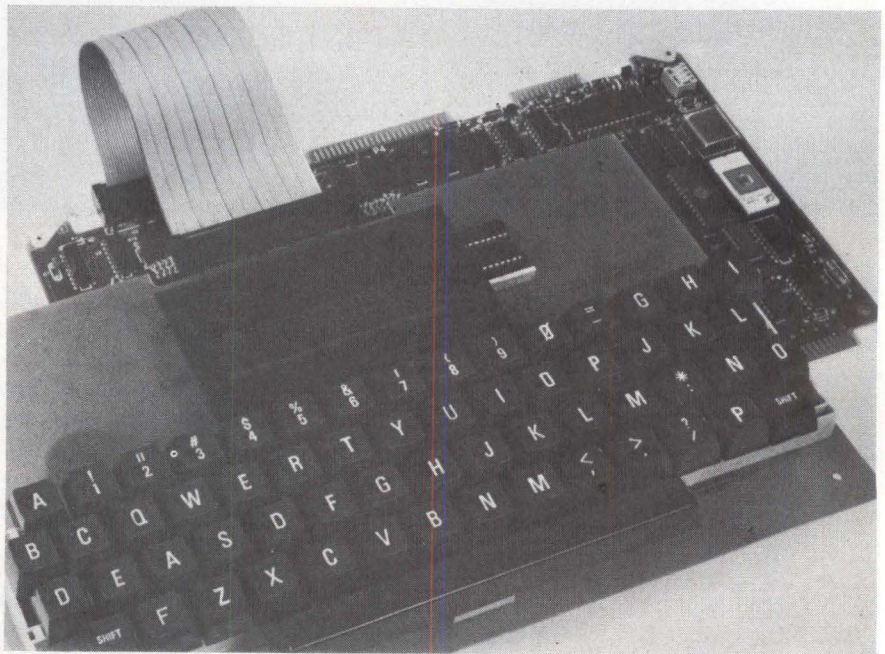
both software development and program execution modes using the 96/4016 evaluation board. As an execution device with assemblers and cross assemblers, the unit can examine the microprocessors' execution speed and system throughput with respect to existing programs and designs. Up and down load capability exists with the Amsys 8/8 Development System recently introduced by Advanced Micro Computers, 3340 Scott Blvd, Santa Clara, CA 95051 (*Computer Design*, June 79, pp 172, 174).

The basic configuration incorporates the AmZ8000 16-bit microprocessor, 8k bytes of RAM, 24 parallel I/O lines, two RS-232-C serial I/O ports, 12k bytes of EPROM/ROM sockets, system clock, and resident monitor. Options further simplify evaluation. The first is a full decoded keyboard and 20-char alphanumeric display on a PC board that edge connects

via a ribbon cable. This option, together with the EPROM resident ASCII, 1-pass, line by line assembler option, produces a mini development system. Another choice is the 95/6410 universal prototyping board with positions for up to 95 ICs, wirewrap pins at connector locations, and a plexiglass cover to protect the wirewrap side. A card enclosure mounts these boards.

Regarding I/O capabilities, one serial I/O port configures as either RS-232-C or TTY current loop interface; the other is RS-232-C only. In the Am8253 counter/timer, two 16-bit counters provide baud rates to 9600 for each serial I/O port, and the third counter is reserved for user programs. A standard CRT terminal or optional keyboard with 20-char alphanumeric display can also be directly controlled. The board is physically compatible with SBC 80 microcomputer boards.

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In fully assembled and tested microprocessor evaluation unit, Advanced Micro Computers integrates necessary onboard software and hardware resources to explore and use features of AmZ8000 microprocessor. Device is shown connected to optional keyboard/display unit