Microprocessor-controlled the TRIDENT 1150A Formatter provides the OEM designer with a versatile and highly maintainable disk drive Formatter. Designed for the TRIDENT Family of disk drives (25 to 300 megabytes), the 1150A Formatter can control and format any mix up to eight drives for a total storage capacity of up to 2.4 billion bytes of on-line data.

Host CPU software and memory requirements are greatly reduced with a comprehensive Macro instruction set.

The 1150A Formatter can be attached to virtually any micro/minicomputer by means of a universal CPU interface that permits insertion of a simple user designed printed circuit board.

Only 5.25 inches of a standard 19-inch RETMA rack are used by the 1150A Formatter.

Sector sizes are selectable which allows the user to customize the disk record length to fit his unique application.

Incompatibility in disk and CPU data transfer rates is eliminated with data buffering up to 4K bytes. Throughput is enhanced with overlapped seeks for up to eight TRIDENT Disk Drives.

The optional Rotational Position Sensing (RPS) feature permits the channel and storage control to be released during rotational delay (while a specific record is being sought).

The standard error correction logic (ECC) can correct an error burst as large as 12 bits with system software intervention. Software intervention can be eliminated with the optional Hardware Error Correction feature.

A chained data transfer feature allows a single CPU request to transfer any number (from 1 to 65, 536) of 16-bit words without regard for physical boundaries.

An optional pluggable CE maintenance panel coupled with internal firmware test routines aid fault isolation. Detailed fault diagnosis is enhanced by automatic status presentation at the end of all CPU commands. Expanded status information is available by a request from the host CPU.

The 1150A Formatter offers the micro/minicomputer systems designer features that were previously only in large disk controller subsystems.