



# NEWS RELEASE

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## STACY PRODUCT BACKGROUNDER

### ATARI® COMPUTER'S STACY™ A FULL-FUNCTION LAPTOP FOR COMPLETE PROCESSING CAPABILITIES IN TODAY'S KEY OPERATING ENVIRONMENTS

LAS VEGAS, NV (November, 1989) -- Today's personal computer users have grown accustomed to economical desktop systems that provide the storage capacities, power and speed necessary to handle their processing requirements. However, until the introduction of Atari Computer's Stacy, no small system manufacturer offered users a fully-functional laptop system with features that would justify its cost.

Atari Computer resisted the temptation of introducing a laptop system until they could ensure that it offered the configuration, compact size and price that users had originally expected. Atari Computer's Stacy system is a true laptop computer. The Stacy provides users with expanded processing capabilities, in a unit that has a total weight of only fifteen pounds--including the back-lit LCD display subsystem; keyboard; a trak-ball™, which serves as a mouse; the drive and a battery pack.

There are no surprise add-ons, such as an external battery pack, to add bulk to the system. The Stacy is powered by 12 standard "C" batteries. The system also offers something that has never been available in a laptop before--full functionality for less than \$1,500.00.

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## STACY PRODUCT BACKGROUNDER (cont.)

### Beyond Word Processing

The Stacy is more than a portable word processor. With its monitor, serial, parallel, MIDI, floppy, hard disk, cartridge, expansion and game controller ports, the Stacy can easily function as a laptop and a desktop system.

In fact, the Stacy laptop is capable of handling **all** of the processing functions of the Atari ST™ line, including graphics and design, CAD, word processing, spreadsheet, database, music, entertainment and other applications.

The Stacy includes a supertwist backlit LCD monochrome display with 640 x 400 resolution. For desktop use with enhanced design, CAD and graphics packages, users may opt to add an ST monochrome or color monitor.

The broad range of existing software application packages that can be used with the system make it ideal for the business person on-the-go, who must often be away from the office. With the Stacy, executives can work on airplanes, in airports and in hotels and then transfer data back to the office by modem or by shipping the 3.5-inch floppy disks.

Databases with client information and available inventories, as well as spreadsheets, financial and market analysis can be accessed quickly and easily --from any location--aiding in sales calls.

Because it is a complete system in a small, light, portable case, small business or home office users can use the Stacy as both an office system and a laptop.

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## STACY PRODUCT BACKGROUNDER (cont.)

### Third Party-Products Expand Applications

Like Atari Computer's ST line, the Stacy laptop includes the latest version of ST-TOS and is compatible with the thousands of ST packages that are available for the desktop systems. However, for users that want to run popular MS-DOS® or Macintosh® programs, several Stacy emulator boards have already been introduced by third-party developers.

For users interested in running IBM®-compatible programs such as Lotus 1-2-3®, Framework®, Symphony®, dBase II® or hundreds of other "out-of-the-box" software packages on the Stacy, Avant-Garde Systems has introduced pc-ditto II. Pc-ditto II is a hardware accessory that taps the power of the Stacy to imitate an IBM PC/XT®. No extra hardware is required to use this emulator which supports all of the Stacy's hardware features, ports and disk formats. Pc-ditto II is available now from Avante-Garde Systems.

MAC programs can be used with the Stacy laptop by adding the Spectre 128 emulator from Gadgets by Small. The Spectre 128 offers 128K ROM compatibility, as well as screen speeds that are twice as fast as other emulators. When configured with the Stacy, this cartridge/software combination allows people to use their Macintosh software on the road or anywhere, as long as they bring their Stacy along. The company also plans to offer a device, called the Spectra GCR, which allows users to read and write MAC disks.

For users who want to increase the speed of their Stacy laptops, FAST Technology offers the TURBO16, 16-MHz accelerator. The accelerator is fully compatible with standard ST software, as well as the IBM and Macintosh emulators. The TURBO16 is installed by removing the 8-MHz CPU and replacing

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## STACY PRODUCT BACKGROUNDER (cont.)

it with FAST's accelerator. The TURBO16 provides a state-of-the-art 16-MHz 68000 processor and 16K of high-speed cache memory. The TURBO16 is available from FAST Technology.

A range of other products including scanners, back-up systems and hard drive options are also available for the Stacy.

### Laptops in Engineering, Education, Design

Unlike the majority of manufacturers, who have focused exclusively on the traveling business person as their sole laptop market, Atari Computer has targeted a broader market for the Stacy.

With an 8-MHz system clock, one, two or four megabytes of on-board memory and an optional built-in 20-MB or 40-MB hard drive, the Stacy has the speed and memory required to handle key design and graphics packages.

An industrial engineer or geophysicist, for instance, could take the lightweight system to a plant or field and input possible strategies, scenarios and scratch-pad plans, on-site. Upon returning to the office, the data can be uploaded or downloaded to another system or the Stacy can be attached to a high-resolution monitor in order to resume work.

An architect or construction foreman could use the Stacy in a similar way. CAD designs are faster to work with than hand-renderings, even with LCD resolutions. And, once the building designer returns to the office, he or she can attach the Stacy to a full-size ST monochrome monitor and have full-blown CAD images. In addition, a built-in trak-ball™, for use as a mouse control, simplifies graphics packages even further.

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## **STACY PRODUCT BACKGROUNDER (cont.)**

Because the Stacy sells for less than half the cost of comparable systems, it is within the price range of most students.

The Stacy is compact enough to be convenient, yet functionally complete so that students can use it for all of their processing requirements.

### **The Stacy and MIDI**

Musicians are mobile. In fact, many musical groups are on the road more often than they are at home. MIDI (Musical Instrument Digital Interface), the personal computer "language" that conveys musical information such as pitch, duration of a note, dynamics of a note, what song is being played, and the current measure of a song, has caught on like wildfire in the music industry. With MIDI, musicians can use a computer to write, record, edit and listen to music from a computer.

Atari Computer has continually been on the cutting edge of MIDI technology with their MEGA™ and ST lines. Now, the Stacy not only offers full MIDI functionality, but portability, as well.

With more than 50 MIDI software packages to choose from, they can record, edit and rework compositions faster. The Stacy is the first laptop to offer musicians the MIDI functions they have come to depend on.

### **Superior Configuration**

The Stacy maximizes the speed of the Motorola 68C000 microprocessor. In addition to the standard 1-MB RAM (expandable to 4-MB), the system boasts 256K ROM and 32K static screen RAM for LCD display. The Stacy includes a 720K

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## **STACY PRODUCT BACKGROUNDER (cont.)**

built-in floppy disk drive and a second floppy disk drive or hard disk may be added.

The LCD back-lit monochrome display is split horizontally at line 200. The portable's keyboard is a standard QWERTY typewriter format with a separate cursor key cluster and numeric keypad. The system has 94 keys (including 10 function keys) and a trak-ball and two "mouse" buttons built-in.

Built-in I/O ports include 8-bit parallel printer, RS232C, MIDI and game as well as a DC power jack. The TOS operating system is in ROM. The GEM operating environment includes icons, multiple windows, window sizing/positioning/scrolling and drop-down menus.

The Stacy is 13.3 x 15 x 13.3 inches and weighs 15.2 pounds, including 12 "C" batteries. This laptop system was developed to provide the ultimate in price/performance, flexibility and convenience.

### **Market Perspective**

According to IDC, in the last two years, the laptop market has tripled in size and grown into a \$2.5-billion industry. And, it is expected to grow to nearly \$6 billion by 1992. In fact, while laptops accounted for 7 percent of the total PC market in 1988, in three years, they will make up 16 percent of industry sales.

Atari Computer intends to capture its share of the growing laptop market by providing users with full computing power at an affordable price.

The company is also moving swiftly into the growing small business and home office markets with the Stacy and other systems that provide total

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## STACY PRODUCT BACKGROUNDER (cont.)

solutions. According to IDC, this market segment is growing very rapidly and consists of about 30 million small businesses/offices that accounted for more than \$20 billion in sales in 1988.

According to Link Resources, less than half of all home worker households currently own computers but 4.8 million indicated that they are "very likely" or "likely" to to buy a computer in 1990. In addition, a steady projected growth of 21 percent is expected in the home office market alone, through 1992. The number of small business users is expected to increase by an equal percentage.

The Stacy is just one of a wave of new products being introduced by Atari Computer that meet the needs and price constraints of professionals in any size organization.

The Stacy has been configured to meet the price and capability requirements to dominate both the general laptop and small business/home office markets.

For more information, contact Mike Morand, president, Atari Computer, 1196 Borregas Avenue, Sunnyvale, CA 94088, (408) 745-2000.

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## STACY PRODUCT BACKGROUNDER (cont.)

### ATARI STACY SPECIFICATIONS

Processor:	Motorola 68C000
System Clock:	8 MHz
Internal RAM:	1 MB, 2 MB or 4 MB 32K Static screen RAM for LCD display
Internal ROM:	192K
Monitor:	Supertwist LCD monochrome with backlighting, split horizontally at line 200
Resolution:	640 x 400 pixels
Keyboard:	Full-function ST-compatible with 10 function keys
Drive:	3.5-inch floppy, optional built-in 20-MB or 40-MB hard drive
Mouse:	trak-ball and two "mouse" buttons on keyboard
Power:	Internal by 12 standard "C" batteries DC input jack for use with external DC source
Ports:	Monitor, Serial, MIDI, parallel, floppy, hard disk, RS232C, Game
Modem:	Optional 1200 baud external
Weight:	15.2 pounds (6.8 kg)
Size:	13.3"h x 15"w x 13.3"d (opened) 3.4"h x 15"w x 13"d (closed)