What's New, KIM-o-sabee?

MOS Technology Inc has announced a new microcomputer system which is being marketed to individual hobbyists as well as to the standard industrial markets. This marks a "first" for the personal systems marketplace — a semiconductor manufacturer recognizing the potential of the hobbyist market and selling directly to it. The product is the KIM-1 Microcomputer System. At press time, early information describes KIM-1 as follows:
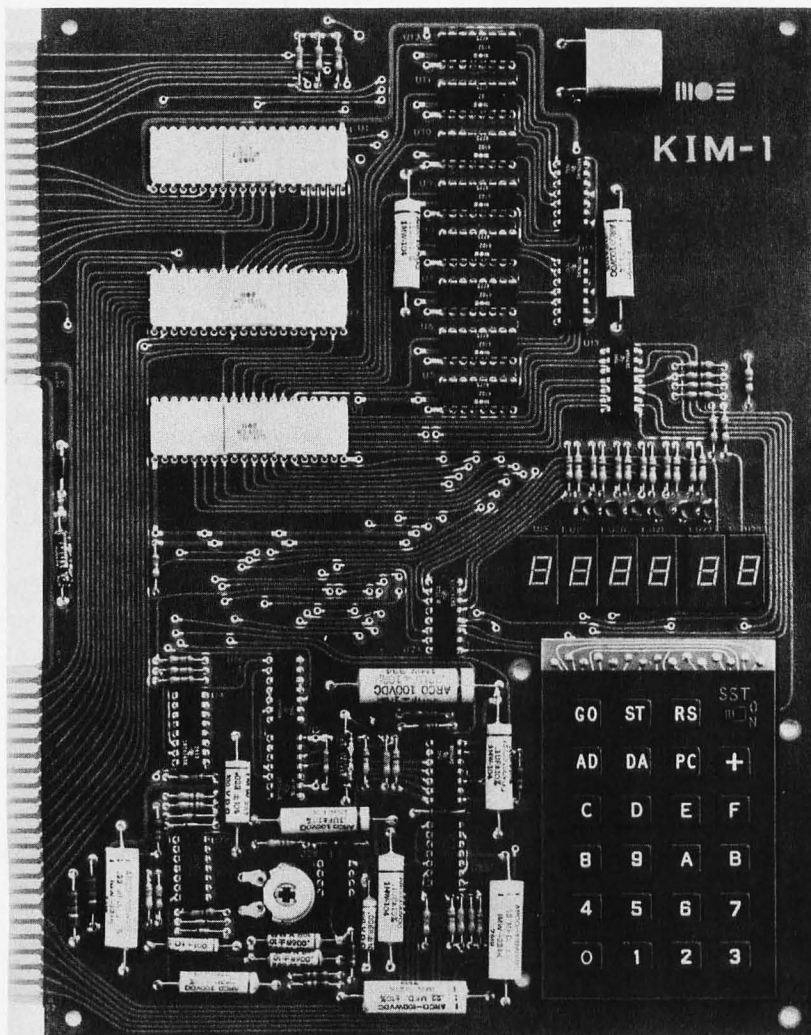
- 6502 processor (see "Son of Motorola" by Dan Fylstra in November 1975 BYTE, page 56).
- Completely assembled (not a kit).
- Supplied with the new KIM-1 manual and over 400 pages of MOS Technology's excellent 6500 series documentation. (The *6500 Family Programming Manual* has some excellent tutorial information as well as specifics on the 6500 family computers.)
- Systems software contained in 2048 bytes of ROM in two 6530 ROM/RAM/IO arrays.
- 1024 bytes of static user RAM.
- 23 key keyboard for programmed inputs and control of the monitor.
- 6 digit LED display for programmed outputs and monitor displays.
- General purpose serial interface with automatic line speed sensing and adaptation. Communications rates from 110 baud to 1200 baud are supported for devices like Teletypes and video display terminals.
- Audio cassette interface (FSK ratio recording).
- 15 bidirectional programmable IO pins to control experimental applications.
- 1 MHz system clock controlled by a crystal.

The board requires a power supply of +5 volts at 1.2 amperes for operation of the computer and LED displays. With this single power supply, you can unpack it from its carton and demonstrate programmable operation with the onboard keyboard and displays. Add a second 12V 0.1 ampere supply, and the audio cassette interface can be exercised with your inexpensive cassette recorder.

This product will prove attractive to readers who are not inclined to fondle hardware extensively, but want a programmable machine with the minimum amount of trouble.

Glorobots

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A robot was having conniptions
at reading handwritten inscriptions,
    but acquired the knack
    by decoding a stack
of typical doctor prescriptions.

Evolution

A self-evolved robot named Babbitt,
because of his dubious habit
    of unbridled mating
    and self-propagating,
was housed in a hutch like a rabbit.

Hear Ye Hear Ye

The sensory robots are near,
but will not be ready this year,
    for each of them tries
    to eat with his eyes,
and cocks his nose trying to hear.

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