Labtam International Pty Ltd is a Victorian company which has been involved in the production of sophisticated scientific instruments since 1972. Their most recent product is a 100% Australian-made computer, the Labtam 3000, offering what is claimed to be a unique set of capabilities.

Features of the Labtam series include dual Z80A and 16-bit 8086 microprocessors, two built-in 20cm disk drives or one floppy drive and a Winchester hard disk, and networking and multiuser operation. The system is constructed to the Multibus (IEEE 796) format and includes a Hall-effect keyboard, green phosphor high resolution video display, a shielded cabinet and line transient and RF suppression.

A mathematical processor for hardware floating point operations and a fast Intel 80186 microprocessor are currently available as options and a 68000 add-on board will be available later this year with the Unix operating system.

The Labam 3000 provides an 80 character by 25 line display with programmable characters and high-resolution bit-mapped graphics, including a resolution of 800 x 300 with four intensity levels or 800 x 600 single intensity graphics. Hardware graphics functions include line drawing, rectangle and polygon drawing, area fill and inverse video and the system will also emulate a variety of industry-standard terminals.

System software currently includes CP/M-86 with a CP/M 2.2 emulator, standard with the machine, while the multiuser MP/M operating system is available as an option.

Programming languages available under CP/M-86 include Cobol, Pascal, C, Basic, and Fortran, while the availability of both 8-bit and 16-bit operating systems provides access to a wide range of software including word processing, scientific calculations and simulations, data base management, communications, business and educational applications.

So far the quality construction and reliability of the Labtam series has earned the company 50 orders, 40 of which are from overseas. Purchasers of locally-built equipment of course do not pay the mark-ups demanded by many importers and are assured of local support. Thanks to cost savings provided by local manufacture, the Labtam series can be offered at prices starting at $6000.

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