

A PROPOSAL TO AMERICAN RESEARCH  
AND DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION 27 MAY 1957

digital computer corporation

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## INTRODUCTION

This is a proposal for American Research and Development Corporation to finance the starting of a new company, Digital Computer Corporation.

## OBJECTIVES

The objective of Digital Computer Corporation is to manufacture and sell electronic test equipment and high speed electronic digital computers. Emphasis will be placed on developing products which will be general purpose and have a wide variety of applications.

## BACKGROUND

The founders have been employed at MIT Lincoln Laboratory in Lexington, Massachusetts for several years developing digital computers for use in military applications. Techniques developed by the founders at Lincoln Lab will be used as a starting point for the new company.

## PHASE I (DIGITAL TEST EQUIPMENT)

The plans for starting Digital Computer Corporation are divided into two phases. Phase I will involve approximately four full time employees and four part time employees.

The primary goal of Phase I is to design, produce, and sell transistorized digital test equipment.

The secondary goal of Phase I is to design on paper the general purpose computer which will be built in Phase II and to obtain military study contracts which will lead to procurement of this type equipment.

## MARKET FOR DIGITAL TEST EQUIPMENT

In about 1950 a compatible family of digital vacuum tube building blocks was designed at MIT Digital Computer Laboratory for use in work associated with the Whirlwind computer. Burroughs Corporation started manufacturing and distributing these building blocks soon thereafter. They are still manufacturing this same line of test equipment today. Their total sales of this equipment are not known, but include more than \$500,000 to Lincoln and probably the same amount to IBM. Other users of this test equipment include Sprague Electric, General Ceramics and many others. The Burroughs Corporation has built computers out of this test equipment, but the use of these building blocks has been limited by its large size, the heat dissipated and the expensive power supplies needed.

A line of transistorized test equipment which is compatible with these vacuum tube circuits will have a ready market in all owners of Burroughs test equipment as well as many other customers. Potential users consist of a) manufacturers of general purpose computers b) manufacturers of digital fire control systems c) atomic energy installations d) laboratories working on pulse circuits in general e) operators of telemeter data reduction facilities f) military development laboratories and g) component manufacturers.

Lincoln Laboratory is at the present time developing a line of transistorized test equipment, under the direction of one of the Digital Computer Corporation founders, that will be compatible with Burroughs and will eventually replace it. Very soon this equipment will be ready to be manufactured commercially. Lincoln Laboratory is expected to be one of the big customers.

## PHASE II (DIGITAL TEST EQUIPMENT AND GENERAL PURPOSE COMPUTERS)

The initial goal during Phase II will be production of the first general purpose computer by Digital Computer Corporation. It is anticipated that this will soon be followed by additional production based on orders. A modest expansion of personnel will be made when Phase II is entered.

Phase II will be entered after one of the following conditions exist:

- a) the test equipment business is operating at a profit,
- or b) a firm purchase order for a general purpose computer has been obtained.

It should be emphasized that Phase II can be entered anytime. It is anticipated that it will be possible to enter it during the first year.

The same general circuits that will be used in the test equipment line will be used in the general purpose computer to be produced in Phase II. Therefore the test equipment business can be considered a stepping stone toward the manufacture of the first computer. The computer's capacity and speed would be in excess of computers available today while the price (about \$400,000) would be significantly less. Initial models would be well suited for use in scientific computation and control applications. Later with the addition of a complete line of input output devices, this same basic computer will also be suited for use in business applications.

The logical design of this computer will be prepared as part of Phase I. The actual construction will not start until Phase II. The reason for this is to minimize the financing required for starting Digital Computer Corporation.

## FINANCIAL

Phase I of Digital Computer Corporation can be entered with initial cash of \$91,200.

## First Quarter Budget

Initial Charges		
Legal fees	\$500	
Filing fee and organization tax	200	
Painting and partitioning	500	
Library	200	
Office supply stock	300	
	Total	\$1,700
Capital Equipment		
Machines	\$2,300	
Special Tools	900	
Small Tools	300	
Test Equipment	1,300	
Office Machines	1,800	
Furniture (Leased with option to buy)		
	Total	7,600
Manufacturing Parts		
Transistors	5,000	
Electronic parts	4,500	
Mechanical parts	2,500	
Miscellaneous	1,000	
	Total	13,000
Monthly Operating Cost		
Salaries and wages	4,520/mo.	
Accountant service	200/mo.	
Legal fees	100/mo.	
Rent, insurance, utilities and misc. overhead	500/mo.	
Travel	400/mo.	
Advertising	400/mo.	
Office supplies	50/mo.	
Furniture rent	130/mo.	
	Total	6,300/mo
Three months @ \$6,300/month		18,900
1st Quarter Total Cash Required		41,200
Reserve for Contingencies		50,000
Phase I Total Cash Required		91,200

Assuming that Phase I lasts for one year, a profit and loss statement and balance sheet would look as follows.

## ESTIMATED PROFIT AND LOSS STATEMENT AND BALANCE SHEET (PHASE I)

	Initial	1st quarter	2nd quarter	3d quarter	4th quarter
<b>Profit and Loss State.</b>					
Net Sales		0	40,000	65,000	80,000
Manufacturing Cost					
Materials	13,000	12,000	22,000	30,000	
Labor	13,560	18,000	23,000	26,000	
Overhead	7,040	8,000	10,000	11,000	
Change in Inventory	13,000	4,000	5,000	8,000	
		20,600	34,000	52,000	59,000
Gross Profit		-20,600	6,000	13,000	21,000
Tax		0	0	0	5,000
Net Profit		-20,600	6,000	13,000	16,000
<b>Balance Sheet</b>					
<b>Assets</b>					
<b>Current</b>					
Cash	91,200	40,000	40,000	40,000	40,000
Inventory		13,000	17,000	22,000	30,000
<b>Fixed</b>					
Equipment		7,600	9,600	17,600	25,600
Total	91,200	60,600	66,600	79,600	95,700
<b>Liabilities</b>					
<b>Net Worth</b>					
Common Stock	91,200	60,600	66,600	79,600	91,200
Earned Surplus					4,500
Total	91,200	60,600	66,600	79,600	95,700

When Phase II of Digital Computer Corporation is entered about \$250,000 additional financing will be required. This may be obtained in any combination of the following ways:

- a) purchase of additional stock by American Research and Development Corporation
- b) profits from test equipment business
- c) other financial sources.

A four year profit and loss statement and balance sheet beginning when Phase II is entered is shown below.



## ESTIMATED PROFIT AND LOSS STATEMENT AND BALANCE SHEET FOR PHASE II

	1st year	2nd year	3rd year	4th year
<b>PROFIT AND LOSS</b>				
Net Sales	400,000	1,200,000	3,600,000	7,200,000
Manufacturing Cost				
Materials	164,000	574,000	1,640,000	1,968,000
Labor	144,000	565,000	910,000	1,028,000
Rent, Ins., Util. Over.	63,600	70,000	115,000	190,000
Depreciation	4,000	15,000	20,000	30,000
Advertising	6,000	10,000	10,000	25,000
Travel	6,600	10,000	50,000	85,000
	<u>388,200</u>	<u>1,244,000</u>	<u>2,745,000</u>	<u>3,326,000</u>
Add Beginning Inven.	0	82,000	328,000	984,000
	388,200	1,326,000	3,073,000	4,310,000
Less Final Inven.	82,000	328,000	984,000	984,000
	<u>306,200</u>	<u>998,000</u>	<u>2,089,000</u>	<u>3,326,000</u>
Gross Profit	93,800	202,000	1,511,000	3,874,000
Less Interest on Loan	0	0	0	50,000
	93,800	202,000	1,511,000	3,824,000
Less Profit Sharing	9,380	20,000	151,100	382,400
	84,420	182,000	1,359,900	3,441,600
Less Corp. Tax	38,000	91,800	682,000	1,750,000
Net Profit	46,420	90,200	677,900	1,691,600
Reinvested Profit	46,420	90,200	677,900	1,491,600
Distributed Profit	0	0	0	200,000
<b>BALANCE SHEET(End of Year)</b>				
<b>Assets</b>				
<b>Current</b>				
Cash	266,620	99,620	171,520	363,120
Inventory	82,000	328,000	984,000	984,000
<b>Fixed</b>				
Equipment	39,000	150,000	300,000	500,000
Plant and Site	0	0	0	1,600,000
Total	<u>387,620</u>	<u>577,620</u>	<u>1,455,520</u>	<u>3,447,120</u>
<b>Liabilities</b>				
<b>Current</b>				
Accounts Payable	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000
Long Term Loan	0	0	0	500,000
<b>Net Worth</b>				
Common Stock	341,200	441,200	341,200	641,200
Earned Surplus	26,420	116,420	794,120	2,285,920
Total	<u>387,620</u>	<u>577,620</u>	<u>1,455,520</u>	<u>3,447,120</u>

## ESTIMATED PROFIT AND LOSS STATEMENT AND BALANCE SHEET FOR PHASE II

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Long Term Loan	0			500,000
Net Worth				
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Earned surplus	26,420	116,420	794,320	2,285,920
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## FACILITIES

All operations will be started in a leased area of about 3,000 square feet, preferably near Lexington. Several potential locations have been investigated. Facilities for assembling test equipment, doing etched wiring and testing will be established immediately. Those manufacturing steps requiring expensive machinery will be done initially by outside organizations. Due to the large number of such organizations in the Boston area, this procedure has worked very satisfactorily at Lincoln Lab.

## SALES

Initial emphasis will be placed on sales to owners of compatible units. This would be done mainly through personal contact. Nation wide sales programs centered around advertising would be started after approximately nine months had passed. Descriptive literature and demonstrations of the equipment would be available within three months.

A FINANCIAL PROPOSAL

January 24, 1957



digital computer corporation

#### INTRODUCTION

The goal of BIGHY COMPUTER CORPORATION is to mass produce high speed, high capacity digital computers. Because of the founders' experience in planning and directing large projects and because the designs for the machine are 'in hand', it is felt that production can commence immediately.

The founders expect to be the initial officers of the company and plan to retain reasonable operating control. It is realized that this control can be retained only as long as the confidence of the financiers is retained.

It is proposed that profit sharing for all employees be planned.

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It is proposed that profit sharing for all employees be planned.

SUMMARY

The first year costs are:

a. Initial Charges	15,000
b. Capital Equipment	30,000
c. Manufacturing Parts	32,000
d. Operating Costs	204,200
	<hr/>
Total	\$341,200

The first computer is expected to be sold after the eleventh month.  
The operating cost at this time is 17,850 per month.

### SUMMARY

The first year costs are:

a. Initial Charges	18,000
b. Capital Equipment	39,000
c. Manufacturing Parts	82,000
d. Operating Costs	<u>202,200</u>
Total	341,200

The first computer is expected to be sold after the eleventh month.  
The operating cost at this time is 16,850 per month.



FIRST YEAR BUDGET

Initial Charges

Legal fees	1,000	
Filing fee and organization tax	500	
Office system consultant	1,500	
Painting and partitioning	3,000	
Library	1,000	
Office supply stock	2,000	
Electronic parts stock	2,000	
Total		18,000

Capital Equipment

Machines	10,000	
Special Tools	4,000	
Small Tools	2,000	
Test Equipment	2,000	
Office Machines	5,000	
Furniture	2,000	
Total		32,000

Manufacturing Parts

Transistors	30,000	
Ferrite Cores	10,000	
Vacuum Tubes	4,000	
Electronic Parts	15,000	
Mechanical Parts	13,000	
Miscellaneous	10,000	
Total		82,000

Monthly Operating Cost

Salaries and Wages	12,000/month	
Consultants	300/month	
Accountant	300/month	
Legal fees	300/month	
Taxes		
Rent, Insurance, Utilities, and Misc. Overhead	2,500/month	
Auto Rental	200/month	
Travel	550/month	
Advertising	500/month	
Office Supplies	200/month	
Total	16,850/month	
12 months	16,850/month	202,200

1st Year Total Cash Required 341,200

## FIRST YEAR BUDGET

### Initial Charges

Legal fees	1,000	
Filing fee and organization tax	500	
Office system consultant	1,500	
Painting and partitioning	3,000	
Library	1,000	
Office supply Stock	3,000	
Electronic parts stock	8,000	
<b>Total</b>		<b>18,000</b>

### Capital Equipment

Machines	10,000	
Special Tools	4,000	
Small Tools	3,000	
Test Equipment	9,000	
Office Machines	5,000	
Furniture	8,000	
<b>Total</b>		<b>39,000</b>

### Manufacturing Parts

Transistors	30,000	
Ferrite Cores	10,000	
Vacuum Tubes	4,000	
Electronic Parts	15,000	
Mechanical parts	13,000	
Miscellaneous	10,000	
<b>Total</b>		<b>82,000</b>

### Monthly Operating Costs

Salaries and wages	12,000/month	
Consultants	300/month	
Accountant	300/month	
Legal fees	300/month	
Taxes		
Rent, Insurance, Utilities, and Misc. (Overhead)	2,500/month	
Auto Rental	200/month	
Travel	550/month	
Advertising	500/month	
Office Supplies	200/month	
<b>Total</b>	<b>16,850/month</b>	
12 months	16,850/month	202,200

1st Year Total Cash Required

341,200