October 1, 1983

NEW PASSWORD FOR TELENET: Effective October 15, the password needed for
users of the Compu Trac Communications Disc and 800 number users of Tele-
net who access CSI with Quicktrieve will change. We have enclosed a
new telephone list for the three packet-switching networks of Telenet,
Tymnet, and Uninet. If you are a Compu Trac user who, for some reason,
does not use Quicktrieve, please review the phone list and check to see
if your city is listed under Telenet. If so, please enter that phone
number on your disc and call CSI for the new password.

If you are a Quicktrieve user, you will not need the new password if
your city is newly listed on the phone directory. You should favor
calling your own city over using the 800 number, because the cost is
considerably less for non-800 number customers. Quicktrieve 800 number
users should switch to Tymnet or Uninet, if possible. Please call Cus-
tomer Service for assistance in making this switch-over.

TELENET PHASE OUT: CSI does not plan to cancel the Telenet service al-
together. However, we prefer, if at all possible, that each user attempt
to use Tymnet or Uninet. Please check the new phone list if you are a
Telenet user and determine if your city is now supported by Tymnet or
Uninet and make the appropriate change to your Quicktrieve User Constants.

PRIOR MONTH SERVICE ADJUSTMENT: Customers have called our office because
of the miscellaneous credits and debits that appear in the Prior Month
Service Adjustment line of your invoice. CSI bills you for the current
month, payable on the 10th of that month, but we do not have any way of
knowing whether you will change the number of contracts that you will
access from the month before or call earlier than the month before. Our
billing assumes that your next month accessing profile will stay the
same as the preceding month. If you are collecting a contract or two,
more or less, there may be an adjustment needed to your bill, and this is
what the Prior Month Service Adjustment computes. In this way, you are
assured of never paying more or less than what you should pay for the
month. CSI's billing practice allows nearly a 50% rate of multiple
accessing without affecting the average number of accesses per month.
CSI also does not charge for early access unless you consistently call on
an early basis. Each customer's three earliest accesses each month are
excluded before determining the time of access in computing your bill.

IBM P.C.: IBM P.C. now works for Compu Trac software. On the IBM Quick-
trieve diskette, the user can collect and distribute to both the CSI
Quicktrieve file structure and the Compu Trac file structure simultaneous-
ly. Furthermore, a program on the IBM P.C. Quickmanager diskette allows
the user to copy Compu Trac files into the Quicktrieve format and vice
versa. Therefore, no matter which service you use with your IBM P.C.,
your CSI data bank may be used at no extra charge for the user.

IBM P.C. COMPATIBLE COLUMBIA: We have studied the Columbia microcomputer (an IBM look-alike) and find it to be totally compatible with the IBM P.C. We purchased one for around $2,500. It came with $1,500 worth of software, two disc drives, a built-in monitor, a high res graphics card, floppy disc interface, printer interface, and a serial interface - all for that price. We paid over $6,000 to IBM for the same machine. We bought the Columbia from a mail order house and received a discount. If you are interested in the IBM P.C., you would be well advised to consider the Columbia, which is less than one-half the price of the IBM P.C. (SEE BYTE MAGAZINE - some vendors are shown below):

Rocky Mountain Micro - 1/800-862-7819, in Colorado 303/371-2430
$2,695.00 for Portable

Columbia Data Products - 301/992-3400 - $2,995 Portable, $3,395 Console

Computer Channel - 1/800-331-3343

BHAT, inc. - 1/800-845-5555 ? Price

ACCELERATOR CARD FOR THE APPLE II+ - QUICKTRIEVE COMPATIBLE: We checked out the Accelerator Card for the Apple II+ after purchasing one from Compu Trac for $489. We installed it in slot 1, changed around some of Quicktrieve's slot assignments, and found Quicktrieve to work with it with no problems.

CRUDE OIL CASH PRICES: We have made arrangements with an oil trading company and now have Number 2 Fuel Oil, Commodity #89, and in Commodity #139, we hold the cash price for Regular Leaded Gas. Both cash prices are '54' contracts. In other words, they represent current day cash price and are displayed in High-Low-Close format.

STOCK AND OPTION DATA BASE AND NEW COMMODITIES TO BE RELEASED: We have finally finished our stock data base accessing software, and we will be testing it for at least a week. If you would like to add stocks or options to your portfolio, please call Customer Service on or about October 15 when we plan to allow the general public to access such data.

QUICKTRIEVE COMPATIBLE SOFTWARE:

We have reviewed Omega Microware's new Chart Trader Plus software, available for $200. We found it to be very user-friendly and a bargain at that price. It operates on the IBM P.C. They can be contacted at 1/800-835-2246.

Omega Research, an altogether different firm with a similar name, has given us a paid advertisement in the form of the enclosed card. If you have an interest, please return the postage paid card to Omega Research with your name and address.

Robert C. Pelletier
Robert C. Pelletier
President

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