Jon Titus

From: Jerry Schneider [jschneider@telocity.com]
Sent: Thursday, October 05, 2000 12:48 PM
To: Jon Titus; Stephen Gabaly
Subject: RE: Corrections to R-E Mark-8 Article & Construction

I received this week a set of Radio-Electronics magazines for all of 1974. Because of this, I was able to identify the source and context for the "modifications" in the December issue.

The "mods" were contained in the "Letter to the Editor" section, and consisted of a response from Jon Titus to previous "Letters to the Editor" that were apparently forwarded to him by R-E for comment.

The complete text of Jon's response is as follows:

"Minicomputer Answers"

Thank you for the latest batch of readers' letters. Some of the questions have been asked and answered in my other letters to you. The one point that they seem to pick up is that the connections should not be made between pins 9 through 16 between the Input/Multiplexer Module and the Address/Manual Module.

This should be included as soon as possible to prevent problems with operation of the computer.

Other answers are as follows:

1. Booklet page 6, fourth paragraph, last line should be: On the following boards install the B jumpers and only resistors R1 - R4 and R21.

2. Connections are made to the Molex 09-52-3081 connectors with stripped leads or male connectors Molex 09-64-1081.

3. The Interrupt Switch register is now the only source of interrupt instructions. An external encoder could be used and bussed with the switches but this would require external circuitry as shown in the booklet.

Mark-8 Corrections

From: Jerry Schneider [jschneider@telocity.com]
Sent: Thursday, September 28, 2000 2:42 PM
To: steve g
Cc: harrowsmith@mediaone.net
Subject: Re: Mark-8 Computer Info

I just received an additional copy of the original Mark-8 article which appeared in R-E. (This came from the secretary of the R-E publisher.) This one included notes to the effect that:

1. Modifications to the Mark-8 were published in the December '74 issue of R-E.

2. Someone wrote R-E and indicated that:

"After assembling the Mark-8 minicomputer and applying power after the preliminary check-out as called for in the construction manual, and nothing happening as it should, I found the following errors and areas of confusion that could arise from following the construction manual:

a. Page 35 (Data input mpx board-Parts layout).
A jumper should be added between R-1 and board edge pin 6 (+5v buss).

b. Page 31 (Address latch-Parts layout).
A jumper should be added between IC-1 pin 5 and IC-2 pin 1.

c. Memory Board
No jumper pins should be installed in the 8 holes along the top of the board just below P-2, as this would permanently ground all memory data out-put lines.

d. Buss Lines.
Board edge buss lines 9 through 16 should NOT BE one continuous buss. Lines 9 through 16 from input mpx board should go ONLY to the CPU board, and lines 9 through 16 from the address latch board should go to ALL other boards. These lines should NOT BE connected between the input mpx and address latch boards as this overloads the CPU integrated circuit data buss.

Additional notes from R-E indicated:

1. Booklet page 6, fourth paragraph, last line should be: On the following boards install the B jumpers and only resistors R1 - R4 and R21.

2. Connections are made to the Molex 09-52-3081 connectors with stripped leads or male connectors Molex 09-64-1081.

3. The Interrupt Switch resistor is now the only source of interrupt instructions. An external encoder could be used and bussed with the switches but this would require external circuitry as shown in the booklet.

Did you have access to this information so that you could incorporate it in your Mark-8 project? Is any of it relevant?

It's all greek or "geek" to me.