Rev. 9/78

Amdahl 470 Systems

	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	WA*
Ease of operation	6	0	0	0	4.0
Reliability of mainframe	6	0	0	0	4.0
Responsivenesss of maintenance service	6	0	0	0	4.0
Effectiveness of maintenace service	5	1	0	0	3.8
Technical support	5	1	0	0	3.8
Ease of programming	6	0	0	0	4.0
Ease of conversion	6	0	0	0	4.0
Overall satisfaction	6	0	0	0	4.0

*Weighted Average on a scale of 4.0 for Excellent.

The user ratings awarded the 470V/6 do not provide much of an opportunity for analysis. Clearly, the system performs exactly as expected, it is fully compatible with its IBM counterparts, and Amdahl has gone beyond IBM in providing reliability and maintenance aids. Further, the Amdahl users are convinced that the company has not stopped at providing good, efficient hardware, but has assembled a highly competent field support organization in sufficient numbers to insure the highest possible system availability.□

transfer rate of one word every eight cycles. The DACL is organized as a pipeline to allow overlapping of the functions. It polls each channel every 16 cycles for service requests, concurrently transfers data in both directions between the Storage Unit and the Channel Buffer Store, and reads or stores the results of each transfer operation.

The OCL translates channel commands and coordinates channel program execution for the C-Unit.

A dynamic priority scheme controls the allocation of service to I/O channels. Channels can issue high-priority and low-priority requests for service. Each channel is assigned a 32-byte buffer area in the Channel Buffer Store. Channels with less than half a buffer area remaining are assigned high priority, while those with more than half a buffer space available are assigned low priority. The S-Unit resolves conflicts for access to the High-Speed Buffer according to its own internal priority structure, permitting high-priority channel requests to take precedence over central processor requests for access to the High-Speed Buffer. An I/O operation is always executed at a higher priority than buffer prefetch operations.

The C-Unit performs parity checks on all input and output data transfers and on data transfers to the Storage Unit. Other functions include channel indirect addressing comparable to that implemented on the System/370, and extended channel logout.

According to Amdahl, the 470V/7 I/O operations will be similar to those of the 470V/5 and 470V/6-II, but there will be certain differences within the DACL and CICL units. No details were forthcoming at the time of this writing.

PERIPHERAL EQUIPMENT

The Amdahl 470 systems can utilize all IBM System/360 and System/370 input/output and mass storage devices, as well as their plug-compatible counterparts from independent vendors. Detailed coverage of many of these peripherals can be found in Volume 2 of DATAPRO 70.

SOFTWARE

Amdahl offers complete functional compatibility with IBM System/360 and System/370 software. Amdahl Corporation intends to support users of current IBM system software by providing new releases of the software, including minor modifications to account for differences in the way the 470's handle machine check conditions, and by supplying software support services for its customers.

Operating systems supported include OS/MVT, OS/VS1, OS/VS2 (SVS and MVS), and VM/370. Also included is support for such major IBM subsystems as HASP, ASP, TSO, TCAM, JES2, JES3, VTAM, RSCS, CMS, and IPCS.

Amdahl maintains a Programming Systems Support (PSS) group that supplies its own versions of the supported IBM systems releases. The PSS group also issues Amdahl versions of the IBM Program Temporary Fix (PTF) tapes.

PRICING

The Amdahl 470 systems are offered for purchase or for lease under a new 5-year operating lease plan that was announced in January 1978. The new leases can be terminated after four years upon payment of a penalty. The monthly rental charges include maintenance, taxes, and insurance fees. Amdahl also passes investment tax credits to both purchaser and lessee.

Other lease terms include purchase credits of 50 percent of total lease payments, lease renewal discounts, and a price escalation limit of 5 percent per year. Rental charges for lease extensions are 80 percent of the last month's payment for a 12-month extension, 70 percent for a 24-month extension, and 60 percent for a 36-month extension.

Prices for all current configurations of the Amdahl 470 systems are shown in the following Equipment Prices section.■

EQUIPMENT PRICES

		Purchase Price	Monthly Maint.	Rental* (5-year lease)
PROCESSORS AND MAIN MEMORY				
470V/5	CPU Complex; includes 16K-byte buffer storage, 12 I/O channels, console including maintenance processor, power distribution unit, and main memory as indicated:			
	With 4,194,304 bytes of main memory	$2,400,000	$ 9,150	$ 58,575
	With 5,242,880 bytes of main memory	2,520,000	9,700	61,600
	With 6,291,456 bytes of main memory	2,620,000	10,100	64,050
470V/6-II	CPU Complex; includes 32K-byte buffer storage, 16 I/O channels, console including maintenance processor, power distribution unit, and main memory as indicated:			
	With 4,194,304 bytes of main memory	2,980,000	9,250	70,500
	With 5,242,880 bytes of main memory	3,100,000	9,800	73,500
	With 6,291,456 bytes of main memory	3,200,000	10,200	75,950
	With 7,340,032 bytes of main memory	3,320,000	10,750	78,975
	With 8,388,608 bytes of main memory	3,420,000	11,150	81,425

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PROCESSORS & MAIN MEMORY (Continued)		Purchase Price	Monthly Maint.	Rental* (5-year lease)
470V/7	CPU Complex; includes 32K-byte buffer storage, 12 I/O channels, console including maintenance processor, power distribution unit, and main memory as indicated:			
	With 4,194,304 bytes of main memory	3,480,000	9,250	80,750
	With 6,291,456 bytes of main memory	3,700,000	10,200	86,225
	With 8,388,608 bytes of main memory	3,920,000	11,150	91,700
	With 12,582,912 bytes of main memory	4,360,000	13,050	102,650
	With 16,777,216 bytes of main memory	4,800,000	14,950	113,575
Four Additional I/O Channels for 470V/7 (16 channels maximum)		150,000	NC	3,100
PROCESSOR OPTIONS				
Two-Byte Interface for I/O channels		1,400	NC	40
Channel-to-Channel Interface, for multiprocessor systems		32,500	NC	900
Upgrade: 470V/5 to 470V/6-II		730,000	NC	—
Upgrade: 470V/6 to 470V/6-II		100,000	NC	—

*Rental prices include maintenance.