

# WHATEVER BECAME OF WOZNIAK'S CORE?

## "Super Remote Control" Still Going Strong

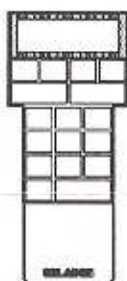
When Apple Computer cofounder Steve Wozniak stopped producing the CORE UC-100 Controller, and his company (CL9) closed its doors in 1988, there were disappointed customers, dealers, and a handful of very dedicated employees. Among these employees were two, Robert Retzlaff and David Peters, who thought that CORE was a product ahead of its time and that shutting down the company was premature.

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After CL9's closing, Retzlaff continued to provide CORE owners with customer service and technical support, while Peters went on to



work for a leader in the character recognition field. Retzlaff, observing continued demand for the product in all types of applications, and realizing its potential, continued to provide service even after funding from CL9 had stopped. Says Retzlaff: "There were a number of people out there who just loved the CORE, and Siemens kept asking when new product would be available."

After some time, CL9 still had not sold the product, and Retzlaff, with the support of Peters, decided that it would be worth a shot reviving CORE. Retzlaff and Peters started Celadon in 1990 with a bit of CL9 inventory and a lot of good ideas.

Celadon began to produce new product, mostly for medical companies. Due to some

customer support issues Peters and Retzlaff decided not to immediately reenter the consumer electronics market that CL9 initially targeted. "We inherited a challenge. CORE was a very sophisticated product that worked very well in complex applications," says Peters. "The medical imaging market made excellent use of some of the features of the controller. We plan to move back into a segment of the consumer electronics market, however, and use Compuserve and soon our own BBS (Bulletin Board Service) to provide support to our customers."

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Over the past three years, Celadon has made improvements to Wozniak's CORE and changed its name to PIC-100. There has also been development of new products at this small self-funded company. "We plan to continue to offer quality products and service into the next century. Many people thought CORE was dead. Well, we just gave it a new identity and made improvements, with more on the way," says the President of Celadon, Robert Retzlaff ■

## NEW PRODUCT

### INFRARED RECEIVER FOR OEM APPLICATIONS

The new IRC-78 Infrared Receiver was designed specifically for use with the Celadon PIC-100 Controller. It allows control of computerized systems with a wireless infrared remote (PIC-100).



IRC-78  
(not actual size)

This latest addition to Celadon's product line is a very flexible device that was designed to meet an OEM customer's need for remote control of a medical imaging system. With one PIC-100 and four IRC-78 Receivers, they are able control four identical systems in the same room. It is easily adaptable for other applications.

This exciting new device is now available. Contact Celadon's Sales Department at (415) 252-7199 for further information.

## HOW IT WORKS

Receiving pre-programmed IR codes from a PIC-100, the IRC-78 processes these codes and converts them into data which is then transmitted via cable to the host computer. In its currently available configuration (IRC-78S), the device outputs ASCII characters which are transmitted serially (RS-232). This compact device is also available with an optional 8-line TTL output (IRC-78T) for other applications. It is powered from either the host computer (+5 VDC or +12 VDC) or an AC converter wall plug ■

## ON-LINE SUPPORT — Moving Towards A BBS

As the information age moves along, more and more on-line computer information services continue to become available.

BBSs (Bulletin Board Services) seem to be springing up left and right. Celadon plans to head in this direction, in order to provide its customers with better service, as well as product information. The potential for easy exchange of information via the telephone lines is really unlimited.

Currently, Celadon Customer Support can be reached via Compuserve [72714,1447] and

AppleLink E-Mail [CELADON.IR]. Our technical support staff will do its best to meet your on-line needs.

We plan to expand upon our current on-line services in the near future. A Celadon BBS is expected to be on-line and available by the end of the year.

We look forward to your participation in this new Customer Service endeavor. Please feel free to give us feedback and/or suggestions regarding this new area ■

### FUTURE BBS FEATURES

- Tech Support
- OS Upgrades
- IR File Transfer
- User Group Dialogs
- Product Information

# PIC-100 UPGRADES

## NO RESET REQUIRED

... After Dropping Controller

Getting frustrated when your PIC-100 (CORE) Controller "locks up" after falling off the coffee table? Well, the old "fallen and it can't get up" syndrome is a thing of the past. Celadon has taken care of that shortcoming.

"We've been shipping new product and repairs with this 'fix' for over a year now," says David Peters, Vice President of Manufacturing at Celadon, "and performance of these upgraded units is markedly improved."

## FREE SERVICE

Celadon is offering this FREE UPGRADE to all of their customers, as well as CL9 customers. Simply return the IR Module (CL9's Master Module) to Celadon with a note requesting the FREE IR Module Upgrade. The IR Module is removed by turning the unit backside-up, pushing away on the ridges of the module (thumbs work best), and pulling up. Allow two weeks for return of your upgraded IR Module.

## SOFTWARE IMPROVEMENTS

The PIC-100 Controller has gone through several improvements over the years with respect to its Operating System (OS). The OS is the software that runs the PIC-100. Among these many improvements are reduced power consumption and an audible tone during downloading.

You can find out what version of the OS you have using this simple procedure to audit your checksum. The checksum is a special computer code used to verify memory.

### Checksum Audit Procedure

- Ensure the PIC-100 is at location "0-0."
- Press the right arrow key (→) twice—the first time you will hear a buzz—with the second press the PIC-100 will display the checksum and OS version.
- Press the right arrow key a third time and all segments of the display will go on.
- Press the right arrow key a fourth time and the display will go blank.
- Press the right arrow key a fifth time and you will return to the original "0-0" display.

### Latest OS Software

Type	Version	Checksum
Standard	4.80	2eae
Page Labeling	5.90	ae9a
One-Button	6.80	1428

If you do not have the latest version of the OS and would like to, you have two options:

#### OPTION 1

Perform the upgrade yourself using a Celadon CS-232 Serial Interface and a copy of the latest OS. Software is available from Celadon in both the IBMPC and Apple Macintosh format.

#### OPTION 2

Return your PIC-100 Controller to Celadon for this inexpensive upgrade.

Call (415) 252-0322 for details on upgrades.

## FUTURE PRODUCT

### COMPUTER DEDICATED CONTROLLER

Urged by customers requesting a small, inexpensive infrared transmitter that can be dedicated to a personal computer, Celadon is currently working on just that. This new product will have many of the features of the current PIC-100; however, it will be controlled from a computer. It will use the computer keyboard and display in place of those currently used by the PIC-100.

Among the many anticipated applications for this future Celadon product are home and industrial control, multimedia, computerized environmental control, and others. In fact, one immediate application will be as a tool for persons with limited mobility. It will be connected to a wheelchair on-board computer and act as a more cost-effective solution to the currently used PIC-100 and a CS-232.

This new device will be a welcome addition to Celadon's growing list of products. Availability for this new product is expected to be early 1994.

## EDITOR'S NOTE

This is the first issue of Celadon Ink. Our goal is to provide Ink readers with the latest information about Celadon's products, support issues, software, customer applications, new product development, and more. Initially, it will be a quarterly newsletter. If it is successful, we will make it a monthly. We hope it proves to be a valuable information source for PIC-100 (CORE) enthusiasts.

Look for the following features in upcoming issues of the Celadon Ink:

- Customer Applications
- Tech Support Hints
- New Generation PIC
- BBS Update
- Software Improvements
- Home Control Corner

I encourage reader input and suggestions. Please let me know what you like and what you don't like. This is your newsletter.

David S. Peters  
Editor, Celadon Ink

## SPECIAL SOFTWARE APPLICATION

### Quadriplegic In Sweden Has More Freedom

Andre Alm of Sweden enjoyed the control of his environment that the large-keyed\* PIC-100 (CORE) Controller afforded him, but it was still difficult for him to deal with all of the keys due to his limited mobility (Alm has quadriplegia). He wanted to control his PIC-100 with a single key or switch, preferably his "sip and puff" switch. To meet his special needs, Celadon developed an easy to use program that turned his Controller into a one-button, scanning remote.

#### HOW IT WORKS

Once this special software is loaded into the PIC-100, a switch (any momentary contact switch can be used) is activated and the unit begins to scan through the keys in a preset manner. The controller beeps as it steps through the memory locations at a user-adjusted rate. When the desired memory location is reached (as shown on the display), the switch is activated again. The controller then sends out the infrared code, or activates a program, that is stored at the selected location.

Alm and others now have access to a 256-location programmable remote control that uses a single switch. He has taken advantage of the macro programming capabilities of the PIC-100 to send a string of infrared codes with one keypress. With his PIC-100 and this new software, he can now control his environment like never before. Imagine the freedom!

\*PIC-100 keys are one half-inch square. These positive-action, recessed keys are separated by ridges. Such unique characteristics make them very suitable for use by people with physical limitations.

## ANNOUNCEMENT SOFTWARE DEVELOPMENT

Have you developed a special computer program for use with your PIC-100 (CORE) Controller? Do you have an idea for one but don't know what to do? Celadon would like to bring you folks together so that all PIC-100 users may benefit.

EXAMPLE: A PIC-100 enthusiast has transferred hard-to-capture X-10 infrared codes into a file that can be loaded into his controller. X-10 is an electronic HOME CONTROL system.