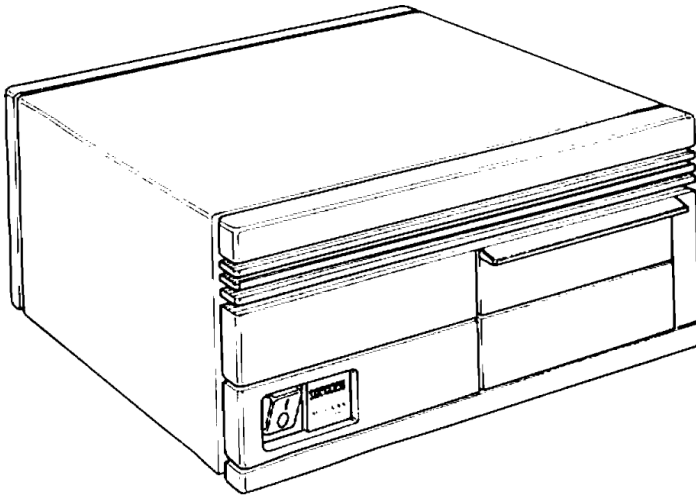


# **VAXstation 2000 and MicroVAX 2000 Maintenance Guide**

Order Number EK-VSTAA-MG-001



**digital equipment corporation  
maynard, massachusetts**

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RT

ThinWire

UNIBUS

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VAXeluster

VAXstation II

VAXstation II/GPX

VMS

VT

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## ABOUT THIS BOOK

This book describes how to troubleshoot, adjust, and repair the VAXstation 2000 and the MicroVAX 2000 Workstation to the field replaceable unit (FRU) level in the field. It covers all FRU options presently available for these two Systems.

- [Chapter 1](#) contains a System overview that outlines the components of the VAXstation 2000 and MicroVAX 2000 Systems.
- [Chapter 2](#) contains testing and troubleshooting procedures to help isolate the problem to an FRU.
- [Chapter 3](#) contains FRU removal and replacement procedures.
- [Chapter 4](#) contains video monitor adjustment procedures for the VAX station 2000 monitor.
- [Chapter 5](#) contains installation instructions for each option available on both the VAXstation 2000 and the MicroVAX 2000.
- [Appendix A](#) contains a list of the test commands.
- [Appendix B](#) contains a complete listing and definitions of the console commands.
- [Appendix C](#) contains a complete listing and definitions of the console messages.
- [Appendix D](#) contains a complete listing and definitions of the VMB boot error Status codes.

The detailed [index](#) and [glossary](#) also help you find Information.

### Notes, Cautions, and Warnings

Notes, cautions, and warnings appear throughout this book.

- Notes contain general, supplemental Information about a topic.
- Cautions contain information to prevent damage to equipment.
- Warnings contain information to prevent personal injury.

## REFERENCE MANUALS

Manual	Order Number
VAXstation 2000 Hardware Installation Guide	<a href="#">EK-VAXAA-IN</a>
VAXstation 2000 Owner's Manual	<a href="#">EK-VAXAA-OM</a>
VAXstation 2000/MicroVAX 2000 Technical Manual	<a href="#">EK-VTTAA-TM</a>
MicroVAX 2000 Hardware Installation Guide	<a href="#">EK-MVXAA-IN</a>
MicroVAX 2000 Owner's Manual	<a href="#">EK-MVXAA-OM</a>
VR290 Service Guide	<a href="#">EK-VR290-SM</a>
VAXstation 2000, MicroVAX 2000, VAXmate Network Guide	<a href="#">EK-NETAA-UG</a>
RD53 Technical Description Manual	<a href="#">EK-RD53A-TD</a>
RX33 Technical Description Manual	<a href="#">EK-RX33T-TM</a>
TZK50/SCSI Controller Technical Manual	<a href="#">EK-TZK50-TM</a>

## TOOLS AND MATERIALS

You will need the following tools and materials to service the VAXstation 2000 and MicroVAX 2000 Systems.

- Field Service Tool Kits
  - 50 Hz Tool Kit p/n 29-23270-00
  - 60 Hz Tool Kit p/n 29-23268-00
- VR260 Video Monitor Tools
  - Metric Measuring Tape p/n 29-25342-00
  - High-Voltage Anode Discharge Tool p/n 29-24717-00
- ThinWire Ethernet Tools
  - Face Plate Installation Kit p/n H8242

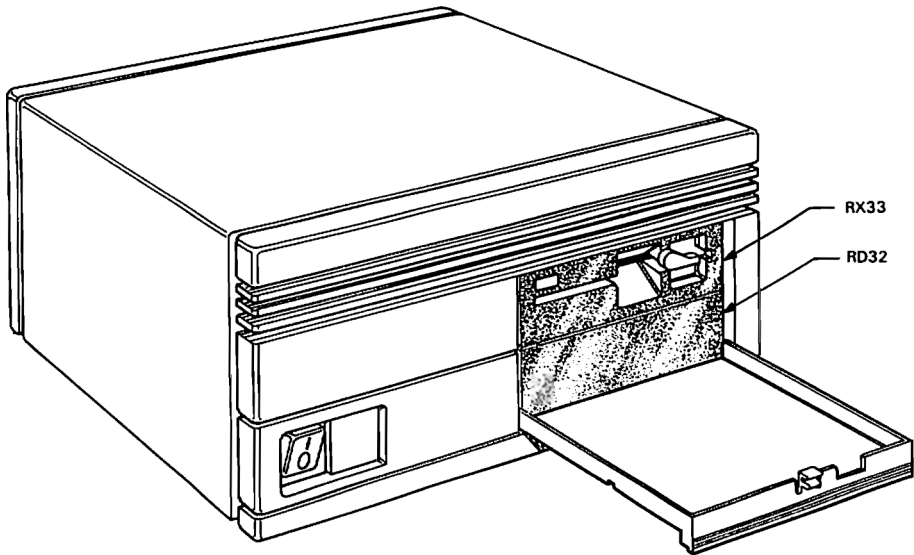
## **1.1 The VAXstation 2000 and MicroVAX 2000 Systems**

The VAXstation 2000 and MicroVAX 2000 systems are mechanically identical. Both come in the same style box, both use the same drives, and both use the same mass storage expansion boxes. Also, both use the same diagnostic tools for troubleshooting and repair. Once familiar with troubleshooting one system, you'll be able to troubleshoot the other if necessary. One major difference is the VAXstation 2000 is a single-user system and the MicroVAX 2000 is a multiuser system. Another difference is the VAXstation 2000 uses a video monitor while the MicroVAX 2000 uses video terminals.

Both the VAXstation 2000 and the MicroVAX 2000 have three main pieces of hardware. They are the System box, the hard disk expansion box, and the tape drive expansion box. The System box can have a half-height RX33 floppy disk drive, a half-height RD32 hard disk drive, or both the RX33 and the RD32. A full-height RD53 hard disk drive can be substituted for the half-height drives in the System box. The hard disk expansion box comes with a full-height RD53 hard disk drive. The tape drive expansion box comes with a TK50 tape drive.

Figure 1-1 shows the front of the VAXstation 2000 and MicroVAX 2000 systems. There are three ways to differentiate between the two systems: the medallion next to the power switch on the front, the DEC423 converter on the back, or the system jumper position on the system module inside the box.

**Figure 1.1: Front View of the VAXstation 2000 and MicroVAX 2000 Systems**

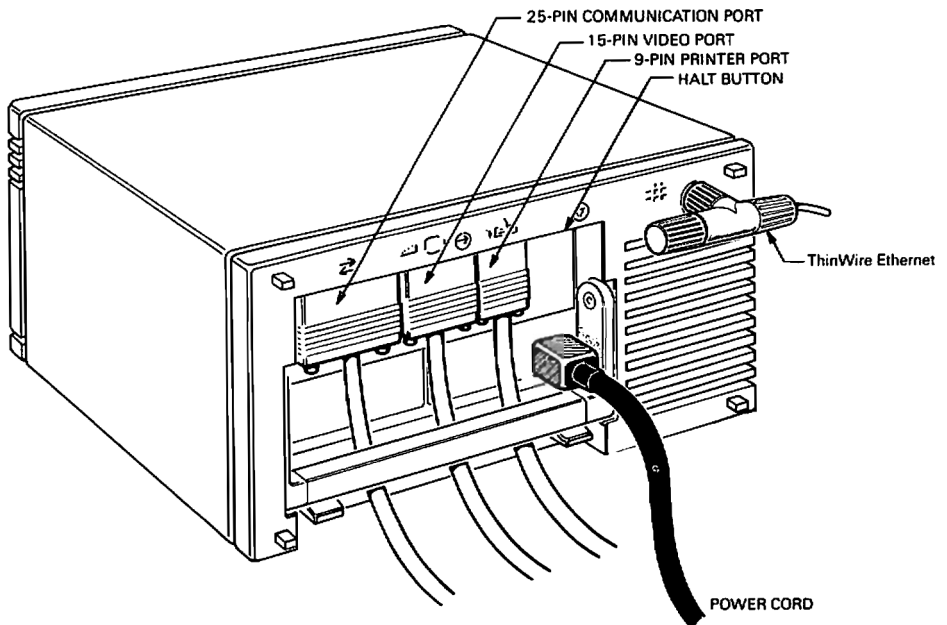


MR-1286-1405  
MA-0063-87



Figure 1-2 shows the rear view of the VAXstation 2000 and labels each connector. A modem or a terminal can be connected to the 25-pin communication port. A VR260 monochrome monitor can be connected to the 15-pin video port. A printer can be connected to the 9-pin printer port. The ThinWire Ethernet port Supports IEEE 802.3 (Standard Ethernet) network communications connections over the ThinWire Ethernet cable.

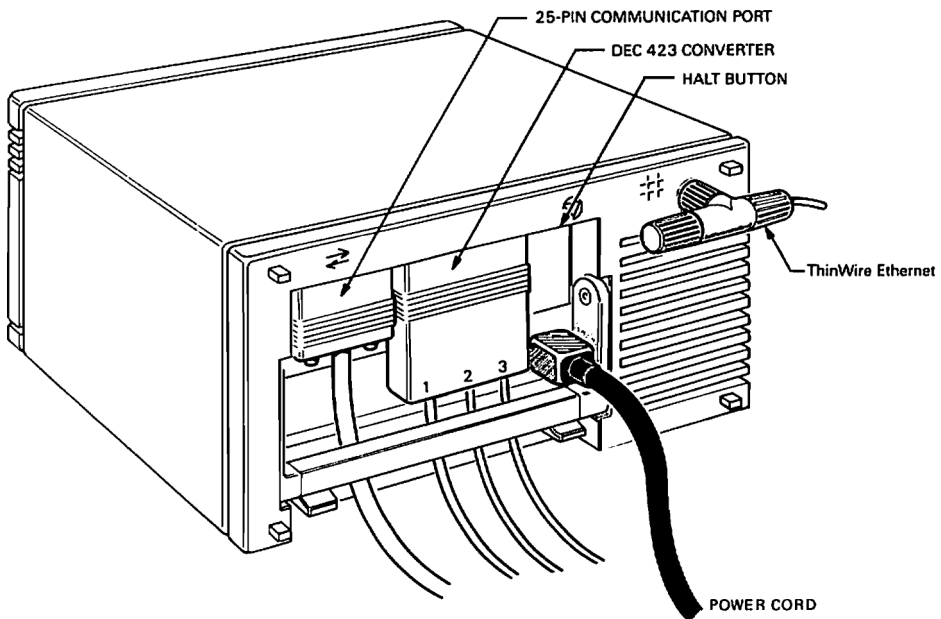
**Figure 1.2: Rear View of the VAXstation 2000 System**



MR-1086-1246  
MA-0132-07

Figure 1-3 shows the rear view of the MicroVAX 2000 and labels each connector. Like the VAXstation 2000, the MicroVAX 2000 supports a modem or a terminal on the 25-pin communication port. The MicroVAX 2000 supports the DECconnect strategy which uses the modified modular jack (MMJ) 6-conductor telephone type cable (DEC423 asynchronous protocol) for connection to the terminals. The DEC423 Converter changes the 15-pin video port and the 9-pin printer port (RS232 protocol) to three MMJ communication ports. Port 1 on the DEC423 Converter is reserved for the console terminal. Ports 2 and 3 can have either a terminal or a printer attached to them. The operating system Software configures each port for either a terminal or a printer. The ThinWire Ethernet port supports IEEE 802.3 (Standard Ethernet) network communications connections over the ThinWire Ethernet cable.

**Figure 1.3: Rear View of the MicroVAX 2000 System**



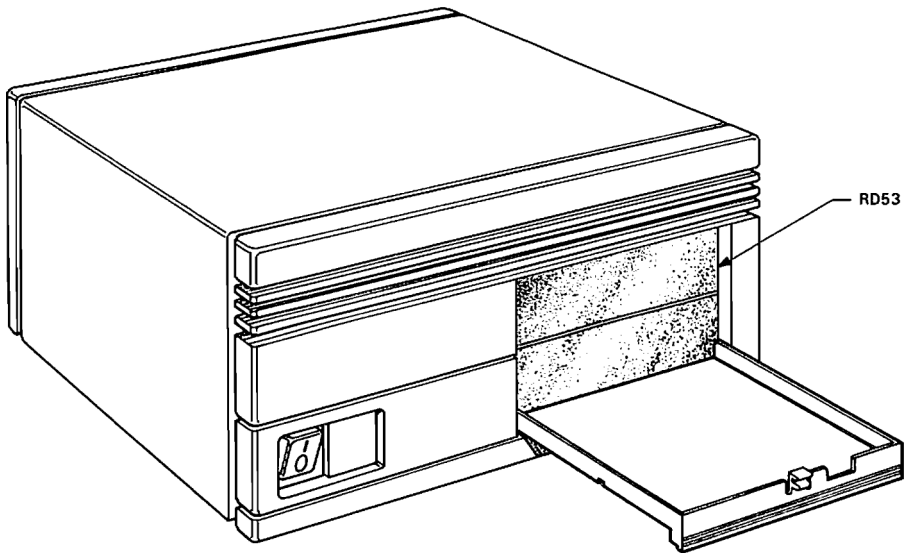
MR-1086-1245  
MA-0134-87

## 1.2 Mass Storage Expansion Box for Both Systems

Additional mass storage devices are contained in expansion boxes that look very similar to the system box. [Figures 1-4](#) and [1-5](#) show the front view of the expansion boxes.

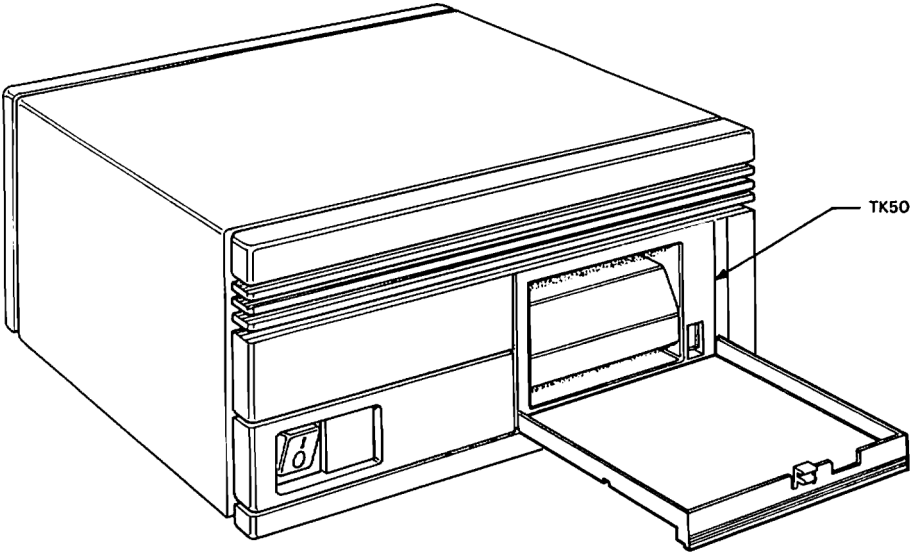
The hard disk expansion box contains an RD53 or RD54 hard disk drive. The tape drive expansion box contains a TK50 tape drive and a controller board. Each expansion box contains a power supply, a resistor load board (to regulate the power supply), and the drive.

**Figure 1.4: Front View of the Hard Disk Expansion Box**



MR-1286-1406  
MA-0085-87

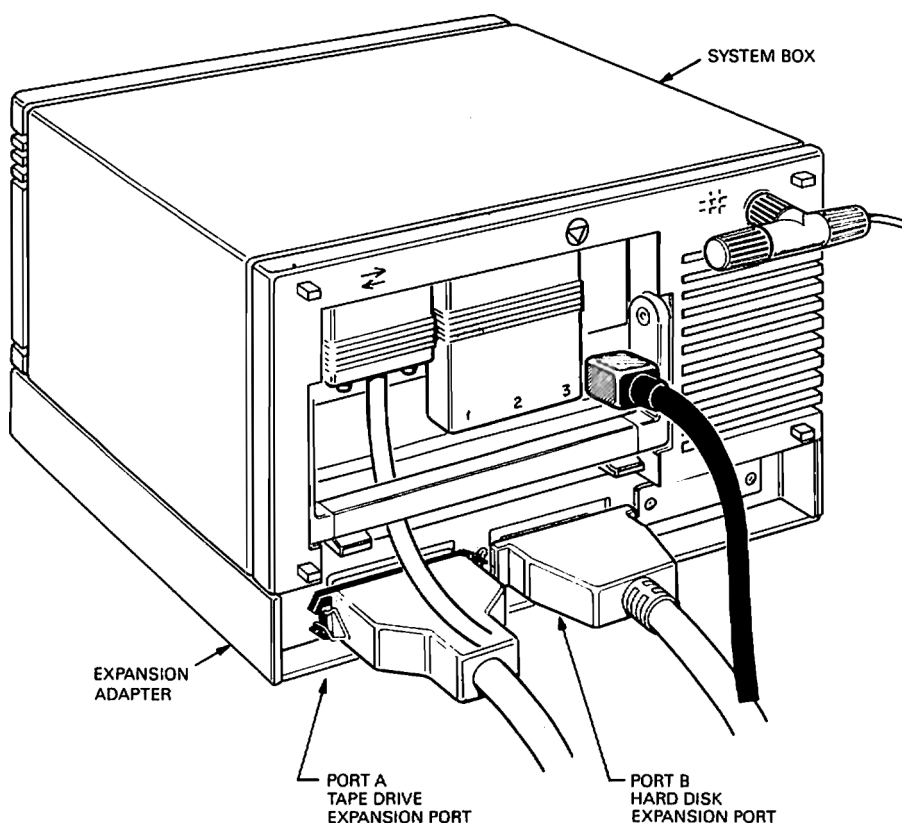
**Figure 1.5: Front View of the Tape Drive Expansion Box**



MR-1286-1410  
MA-0064-87

Both expansion boxes connect to the system box through an expansion adapter that attaches to the bottom of the system box. The expansion adapter has three connectors on the back labeled ports A, B, and C. Port A connects the tape expansion box to the system. Port B connects the hard disk expansion box to the system. Port C is reserved for future options. [Figure 1-6](#) shows the back of a MicroVAX 2000 system box with an expansion adapter.

**Figure 1.6: System Box with Expansion Adapter**



MR-1286-1409  
MA-0135-B7

# 1.3 Options

## 1.3.1 Internal Memory Options

Two additional memory modules are available for both systems. One is a 2-megabyte memory module and the other is a 4-megabyte memory module. The memory module is located in the system box and is connected directly to the system module.

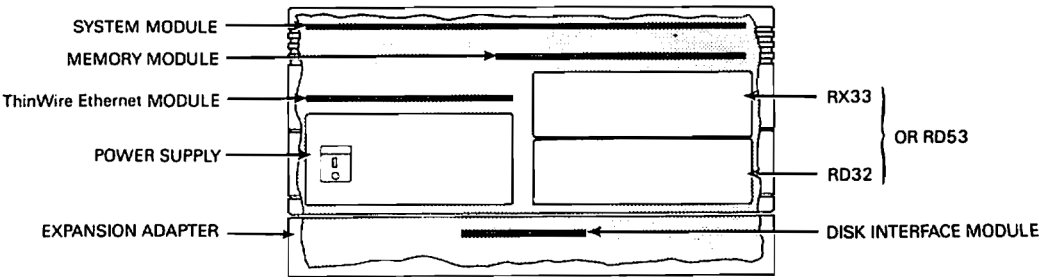
## 1.3.2 ThinWire Ethernet Option on MicroVAX 2000

ThinWire Ethernet is an option on the MicroVAX 2000. It comes standard on the VAXstation 2000. It adds the capability of connecting the system to the DECnet through the ThinWire Ethernet network. The option consists of a network interconnect module that is located in the system box and is connected to the system module through two 40-conductor cables.

# 1.4 FRU Locations

Figure 1-7 shows the locations of the FRUs in the system box. Figure 1-8 shows the locations of the FRUs in the expansion boxes.

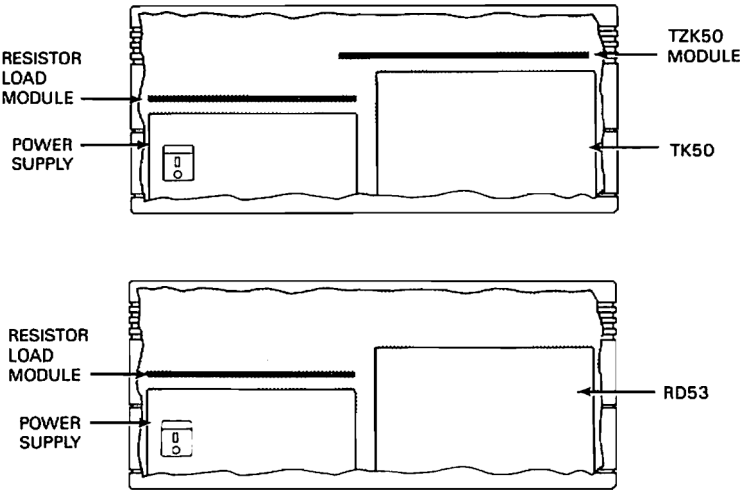
**Figure 1.7: FRU Locations in the System Box**



VAXstation 2000 AND MicroVAX 2000 SYSTEM BOX

MA-0160-07

Figure 1.8: FRU Locations in the Expansion Boxes



VAXstation 2000 AND MicroVAX 2000 EXPANSION BOXES

MR-1186-1275  
MA-0133-B7





## Chapter 2

# Testing and Troubleshooting

---

## 2.1 Introduction

This chapter describes how to test and troubleshoot the VAXstation 2000 and the MicroVAX 2000 systems. Differences between the VAXstation 2000 and the MicroVAX 2000 are specifically identified in the text.

This chapter contains the following sections.

- How to use console mode: determining the console device, entering console mode, exiting console mode, utilizing the diagnostic console device, and where to find a list of the console commands.
- How to run the diagnostic tests and interpret the error codes for each test: power-up tests, self-test, and system exerciser.
- How to troubleshoot all devices in the system.
- How to use the utilities.

## 2.2 Using Console Mode

The VAXstation 2000 and the MicroVAX 2000 systems have two modes of operation: program mode and console mode. Normal operation of the VAXstation 2000 and the MicroVAX 2000 is in program mode, that is, with the operating system controlling the system. Console mode allows the user to control the system from the console terminal using the console commands described in [Appendix B](#). Console mode is contained in ROM on the system module.

Testing is done while in console mode. The System returns the >>> prompt when it is in console mode. [Table 2-1](#) lists the prompts and the mode of operation each prompt represents.

**Table 2.1: Prompts**

Prompt	Mode of operation
>>>	Console mode. Console commands are listed in <a href="#">Appendix B</a> .
\$	Program mode (VMS operating system)
%	Program mode (Ultrix operating system)

### 2.2.1 Determining the Console Device

The console device for a VAXstation 2000 system is the keyboard (LK201) and monitor (VR260) connected to the video port. The keyboard inputs commands at 4800 baud and the monitor displays output from the video circuits.

The console device for a MicroVAX 2000 system is the terminal (VT220 or similar terminal) connected to connector 1 on the DEC423 converter. The terminal operates at 9600 baud.

### 2.2.2 Entering Console Mode

Console mode is entered any time the CPU halts. The CPU can be halted automatically or manually. A halt means that CPU control has passed control from the operating system to the console mode program in ROM. If the system halts the CPU, then the console mode program checks the nonvolatile RAM (NVR) for user-defined instructions on how to handle the halt. If you manually halt the CPU, the system enters console mode program immediately without checking the NVR for instructions.

You can manually halt the CPU and enter console mode by one of the following methods.

- **HALT button** – Press the halt button. It is located next to the printer port on the back of the System box. The >>> prompt is displayed when ready for console commands.
- **BREAK key** – Press the BREAK key on the diagnostic console device that is connected to the printer port with the BCC08 cable. The >>> prompt is displayed when ready for console commands.

The system automatically halts the CPU for the following reasons.

- **After power-up testing** – If the default recovery action is halt, the system

automatically halts the CPU and enters console mode after power-up tests are complete. See Section 2.5.4 for information on setting the default recovery actions.

- For a boot failure – If the system fails to boot properly, the system automatically halts the CPU and enters console mode. See Section 2.5.2 for information on setting the default boot device.
- On a system error – If the CPU detects a severe corruption of its operating environment, it halts and reads the default recovery action in the NVR. The default recovery action can be restart, boot, or halt. When it is restart and the restart fails, then the system automatically tries to boot the operating system software. If the boot fails, the CPU halts and enters console mode. When the default recovery action is boot and the boot fails, the CPU halts and enters console mode. When the default recovery action is halt, the CPU unconditionally halts and enters console mode.

One other way to halt the CPU is when the operating system software executes a halt instruction. The CPU then reads the default recovery action in the NVR and acts on it as described above.

### **2.2.3 Exiting Console Mode**

Console mode is exited by typing one of the following console commands.

- **BOOT** – This command initializes the CPU and boots the operating system software from the device specified. If no device is specified, the system searches each on-line device until the operating system software is found. The boot command starts the system similar to when power is turned on except that the power-up tests are not run. If the system attempts to boot over the net (ESA0) and no software is available on another node, the system keeps looking for the software indefinitely. If a boot message for the operating system software does not appear shortly after the Ethernet boot message (ESA0) is displayed, then you must press the halt button to abort the Ethernet boot. If you still need to boot over the Ethernet, make sure the node with the operating system software is operating normally and the software is loaded. Run the Ethernet loopback Utility (TEST 90) to check the networking capability of the system if the Ethernet boot continues to fail.

When a boot is invoked using this boot command, you can specify several boot command flags by bit encoding the flags in a flag word specified with the /R5: qualifier. These command flags are listed in Paragraph 2.5.3.

- **CONTINUE** – This command instructs the CPU to continue the operating system software at the address contained in the program counter (PC). This

command starts up the operating software where it was halted provided no console test commands were run. Running a test command alters the PC and memory so that the operating system software cannot be started properly by entering the continue command. If a test command was entered, use the boot command to start the operating system software. The continue command is similar to the start command. The start command can specify the address to start the operating software and the continue command has the operating software continue where it left off.

- **START** – This command starts the operating system software at a specified address. If no address is given, the contents of the PC are used. However, running a test command alters the PC and memory so that the operating system software cannot be started properly by entering the start command. If a test command was entered, use the boot command to start the operating system software.

## **2.2.4 Diagnostic Console Device**

There is a diagnostic console device available on the VAXstation 2000. The MicroVAX 2000 can use this device if the DEC423 Converter is removed.

The diagnostic console device can be utilized by connecting a terminal (such as the VT100 or VT220) to the printer port with the special BCC08 cable. The terminal operates at 9600 baud. Field service technicians can use this terminal as a diagnostic tool to isolate a problem in the normal console device.

To use this diagnostic console device you must turn off power, connect the BCC08 cable to the printer port and terminal, and then turn power back on. The diagnostic console device now controls the system. The normal console monitor displays video test patterns on the VAXstation 2000 when the video circuits are tested. The normal console keyboard does not operate.

## **2.2.5 Console Commands**

Console commands are listed in [Appendix B](#).

## 2.3 Testing

Testing procedures on the VAXstation 2000 and the MicroVAX 2000 systems are almost identical. The differences between the systems are explained where applicable. All diagnostic tests are ROM-based and testine is done while in console mode. Tests are executed in either of two ways:

- Automatically – When power is turned on the power-up tests begin.
- Manually – By entering one of the console test commands on the console terminal. See [Appendix A](#) for a complete listing of the test commands.

### 2.3.1 Power-up Tests

Power-up tests run each time the system power is turned on. Power-up testing consists of a sequence of tests executed for each device installed in the system. The test number of each device is listed on the power-up screen display as the device is tested. Figure 2-1 shows an example of the power-up screen display. The first line indicates the CPU name (KA410-A) and the ROM version (V1.0). The test numbers are listed next in descending order from the first test, F, to the final test, 1. TEST F will have an underscore after it on the MicroVAX 2000 to indicate that TEST F was not run. Note in Figure 2-1 that tests 4, 3, 2, and 1 have an underscore (\_\_) immediately after them. This underscore indicates that there is no option device installed for that test; thus, no tests are done. TEST F has an underscore after it on the MicroVAX 2000 systems because the monochrome video circuits are not used by the MicroVAX 2000. No other test numbers can have underscores after them. An asterisk (\*) after TESTS 4 through 1 indicate that an option is installed, but its ROM is destroyed and the Option device must be replaced. Only TESTS 1 through 4 can have an asterisk after them. Figure 2-2 lists the symbols that can appear between the tests and what they indicate.

**Figure 2.1: Example of Power-up Tests Screen Display**

```
KA410-A V1.0
F...E...D...C...B...A...9...8...7...6...5...4__3__2__1__.
```

Figure 2-2 lists the definitions of the symbols that appear between the test numbers in the power-up test countdown.

## Figure 2.2: Power-up Symbols Defined

```
... Device tested successfully or has a soft error
?... Device has a hard error
_.. Device not installed or not tested
*.. Device installed but its ROM is destroyed
```

If any hard errors (errors that indicate the device must be replaced for proper operation) are found during power-up testing, a question mark is placed after the failing test number during the countdown sequence. An error summary of all errors detected is listed after the power-up sequence is complete. Two question marks in the error summary indicate a hard error. Error codes that indicate the status or soft errors do not put a question mark after the failing test number in the sequence, but do list the error code in the error summary. Figure 2-3 shows the power-up screen display with a hard error found in TEST F and a soft error found in TEST E. The error summary for each failed device is displayed before the boot sequence is started. However, the screen usually scrolls so fast when the system starts to boot that you may not be able to see what the error summary contained (if there was an error summary). To see what errors the power-up tests found, press the halt button and enter TEST 50 on the console terminal. TEST 50 is the command for bringing up the configuration table. The configuration table is created during power-up testing. This configuration table contains all of the error codes listed in the power-up error summary as well as error codes for all devices installed in the system. The error codes in the configuration table are updated every time self-test is run. See Paragraph 2.5.1 for an explanation of how to use the configuration table.

Each error summary consists of one or two question marks, a test number, the ID number of the failed device, and an eight-digit error code. For example, in Figure 2-3, the first line of the error summary shows a hard error for TEST F, a device ID number of 00B0, and an error code of 0001.F002. The second line shows a soft error for TEST E, a device ID of 0040, and an error code of 0000.0005. Section ( 2.3.1.1) describes the error codes.

**Table 2.2: Keyboard LEDs Defined**

Keyboard LED	Failing module
Hold Screen	System module
Lock	Not used
Compose	ThinWire Ethernet option module
Wait	Not used

**Figure 2.3: Example of Power-up Tests Screen Display with Errors.**

```
KA410-A V1.0

F?..E...0...C...B...A...9...8...7...6...5...4...3...2...1...

?? F  00B0  0001.F002
? E  0040  0000.0006
```

If there is a fatal error in the NVR during power-up testing, the system stops testing the other devices and displays ?14 TOY ERR on the screen. When this happens, the only way to determine the cause of the problem is by viewing the LEDs on the keyboard. One of the LEDs will be lit to indicate the failing module. [Table 2-2](#) lists the LEDs and which module has failed.

Once power-up testing is complete and no fatal or hard errors are found, the system boots the operating system software. Both the VAXstation 2000 and the MicroVAX 2000 boot the operating system software the same. The only difference between the two is that the VAXstation 2000 clears the console screen before it boots and the MicroVAX 2000 does not. If a default boot device is loaded in the NVR, the system boots off of that device. If no default device is loaded in the NVR, the system searches every on-line storage drive for the operating software. DUA2 is searched first if a floppy diskette is loaded. Otherwise, it is not searched at all. The hard disks are searched next, DUA0 then DUA1. MUA0, the tape drive, is checked after the hard disk drives if it is installed and a cartridge is loaded. Finally, the system searches the Ethernet network for the software and ESA0 is listed on the screen. The system continues to search the Ethernet network until the operating system software is found.

### 2.3.1.1 Power-up Test Error Codes

The power-up test error codes indicate status and/or error information. Any errors found by power-up tests are listed in the error summary after the power-up test countdown sequence. This summary, if any, gives you a brief summary of the errors. Table 2-3 lists the test numbers and the devices that are tested during that particular test. To look at the complete list of devices and the status of that device, you must display the configuration table. The configuration table lists every device in the system and also lists the results of the self-test and power-up tests and is updated each time self-test is run. The error codes for each device in the configuration table are explained in the troubleshooting section for that individual device. Remember that the configuration table contains the results of the self-test and power-up tests and not the results of the system exerciser. Figure 2-4 shows an example of the configuration table and for an explanation of the configuration table, see Paragraph 2.5.1.

**Figure 2.4: Example of the Configuration Table**

```
>>> TEST 50
KA410-A V1.0
ID 08-00-2B-02-CF-A4

?? MONO          0001.F002
? CLK            0000.0005
NVR              0000.0001
DZ               0000.0001
00000001 00000001 00000001 00000001 00000001 000012A0
MEM              0002.0001
00200000
MM               0000.0001
FP               0000.0001
IT               0000.0001
HDC              1710.0001
000146B8 00000000 00000320
TPC              0202.0001
FFFFFF03 01000001 FFFFFFF06 FFFFFFF05 FFFFFFF05 FFFFFFF05 ...
SYS              0000.0001
NI               0000.0001 V1.0
>>>
```

The most common good error code is 0000.0001. There are, however, some devices that use the first four digits in the error code to indicate the status of the device



and the last four digits to indicate the error found on the device. The memory (MEM) error code, for instance, contains 0002.0001 which indicates two megabytes of memory is available (0002.) and no error found (.0001). On devices like these, the last four digits always indicate .0001 as a good (non-error) indication.

Some error codes indicate no error at all and give a status of the device such as the clock (CLK) which shows that the date and time has not been set. This is not an error, just a status of the clock circuits.

Any error code other than 0000.0001 on the MONO, MM, FP, IT, or SYS devices indicates a hard error and that device must be replaced for proper operation of the system. The other devices such as CLK, NVR, DZ, MEM, HDC, TPC, and NI may have a status or a soft error message in the error codes and may still operate normally.

See the troubleshooting procedures section (Paragraph 2.4) for each device to determine whether or not the error code indicates a fault or a status for the device.

### **2.3.2 Self-test**

Self-test allows you to test every device again individually, a few at a time, or all of them sequentially just like power-up tests. To individually test a device, enter TEST # where # is the test number of the device you want tested. [Table 2-3](#) lists the test numbers and the devices tested by those numbers. Figure 2-5 shows an example of running self-test successfully on the disk controller.

**Figure 2.5: Example of Running Self-test on the Disk Controller**

```
>>> TEST 7
      7...
>>>
```

To test a group of devices, enter TEST followed by the test number of the first device to be tested and then the test number of the last device to be tested. Figure 2-6 shows an example of testing a group of devices. In Figure 2-6, all tests between C and 4 are tested successfully. Note that you cannot pick and choose which devices to test between C and 4, all tests between C and 4 are tested when entered as a group.

**Figure 2.6: Example of Running a Series of Self-tests**

```
>>> TEST C 4
      C...B...A...9...8...7...6...5...4_..
>>>
```

To test all devices, enter TEST F 1. The MicroVAX 2000 skips over the MONO video test (TEST F) since it does not use the video circuits.

**Table 2.3: Self-test Commands**

Test Number	Device Tested
1	Option module (Network Interconnect module) (NI)
2	Option module (not available)
3	Option module (not available)
4	Option module (not available)
5	Interrupt Controller and ThinWire Ethernet ID ROM (SYS)
6	Tape Controller. (TPC)
7	Disk controller. (HDC)
8	Interval timer. (IT)
9	Floating point unit. (FP)
A	Memory management unit. (MM)
B	Memory. (MEM)
C	DZ Controller. (DZ)
D	Non-volatile RAM. (NVR)
E	Time-of-year dock. (CLK)
F	Base video (MONO) (VAXstation 2000 only)

**2.3.2.1 Self-test with Loopback Connectors**

Customer mode self-test does not test the drivers or the lines of the serial line controller (DZ) since loopbacks are not used. Run self-test in field service mode to test the DZ drivers by installing the loopback connectors on the back of the System. Follow one of the procedures below.

To test the DZ on VAXstation 2000, install a loopback (p/n 29-24795) on the 25-pin communication port and a loopback (p/n 29-24794) on the 9-pin printer port. Run TEST C. You cannot use loopback connectors if you are using the diagnostic console device with the BCC08 cable on the printer port since there is no loopback connector for the video port.

To test the DZ on MicroVAX 2000, install a loopback (p/n 29-24795) on the 25-pin communication port and install an MMJ loopback on both ports 2 and 3. Run TEST C.

**NOTE:** *The ThinWire Ethernet port on the back of the system box must be terminated properly when running diagnostics on the network option (TEST 1) otherwise an error code of 0000.7001 or greater is listed in the configuration table.*

### 2.3.2.2 Self-test Error Codes

Figure 2-7 shows how an error is displayed if found during self-test. This example shows an error on the disk controller during self-test. The 84 FAIL indicates an error was found on the device tested. You must display the configuration table (TEST 50) after self-test is complete to see the error code, if there is an error during self-test, since the error codes do not appear on the screen. The configuration table lists every device in the system, lists the results of the self-test and power-up tests, and is updated each time self-test is run. The error codes for each device in the configuration table are explained in the troubleshooting section for that individual device. Remember that the configuration table contains the results of the self-test and power-up tests and not the results of the system exerciser. See Paragraph 2 5 1 for an explanation of the configuration table.

**Figure 2.7: Example of a Self-test Error on the Disk Controller**

```
>>> TEST 7
      7?..
      84 FAIL
>>>
```

(You must display the configuration table to see the error code)