

Resurrecting a Set of Cromemco™ 3K Control Basic EPROMs with a Hacksaw

By

Craig Landrum, CTO
Mindwrap, Inc.
(w) 540-675-3015 x 229
(h) 540-987-9549
craigl@mindwrap.com

This is the
Hacksaw...



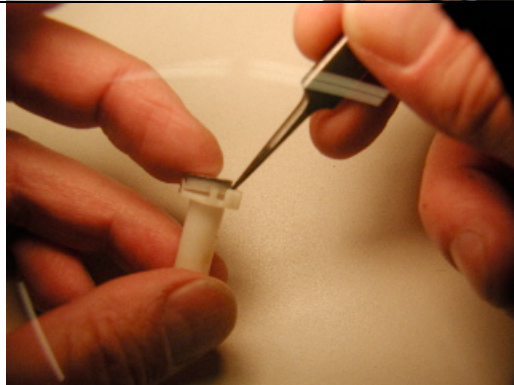
...that cut the
Pipe...



...that stamped out the
Pads...



...that repaired the
Plungers...






...that fixed the
Keyboard...



...that enabled the
System...



<p>...that resurrected the EPROMS...</p>	
<p>...that plugged in the Board...</p>	
<p>...that ran the BASIC...</p>	

... that **Cromemco** made!

NOTES: The **Keyboard** is a 1979 KeyTronics™ capacitance-based keyboard, the repair of which is extensively documented in a separate (serious) paper. The **System** is a fantastic 1979 GenRad FutureData 2300 8-bit development system, used extensively by me during the period 1979-1986 at Planning Research Corporation and is believed (by me) to be the only working example of its kind left anywhere. The **Board** is an S-100 bus 4 Mhz Z-80 based Cromemco Single Card Computer equipped with 3 parallel ports, a serial port, space for 8K of 2716 EPROMs and 1K of static RAM. The **EPROMS** are 2Kx8 Intel 2716 EPROMS. The **BASIC** is Cromemco's MCB-216 3K Control Basic and Monitor PROM set, restored to original condition from a version I hacked back in 1982, but managed to keep a copy of on a 23 year-old 8-inch floppy. The MCB-216's are a real testament to the Z-80 wizardry of the Cromemco programming team. Incredibly tight code. Copies of the resurrected MCB-216's and related documentation may be obtained from several retrocomputing and S-100 related websites. Google for "Cromemco 3K Basic", "Cromemco Z-80 Monitor" for further light reading. Permission granted to post this document freely.