

The trouble with  
hot metal is that  
you can't  
edit or correct  
at the keyboard.



True or false?



# The answer

The answer is false – now. With the introduction of the new 'Monotype' System 272 editor, we have brought hot metal into the electronic age. Now the hot metal installation has access to all the text-handling facilities normally associated with sophisticated photosetting input systems.

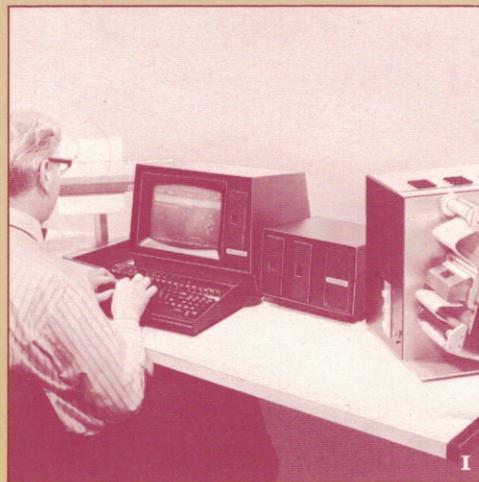
For example, with the System 272 you can:

- Enter or edit text, using the 'typewriter' keyboard and display screen.
- Edit the 31-channel output from other 'Monotype' keyboards.
- Print out jobs from a line-printer for reading, and re-edit, so that by the time the tape reaches the caster, it is correct.
- Store jobs on floppy disc.
- If required, you can change the face, point-size, measure, or leading of an entire job without the need to re-key the text.

Added to that, it can greatly reduce the capital investment involved in buying in new 'Monotype' faces, since it requires no keybar frames, keybutton banks, stopbar frames, or justification scales.

What is more, the System 272 from Monotype enables you to make a smooth transition to photosetting, should you decide to make the change. It is completely compatible with photosetting operation, and it means that text input and handling can continue with virtually no retraining.

The System 272 increases the productivity of hot-metal typesetting by ensuring that the casters run only 'clean' matter and eliminating corrections from the case; and by cutting down the time taken for text entry – the most time-consuming element in hot-metal setting.



## 1. 'Monotype' System 272

The System 272 is a terminal with dual microprocessors, visual display screen, a keyboard, a floppy-disc unit, and a 31-channel paper tape punch. Optional extras include a hard-copy proof printer and a 31-channel tape reader.

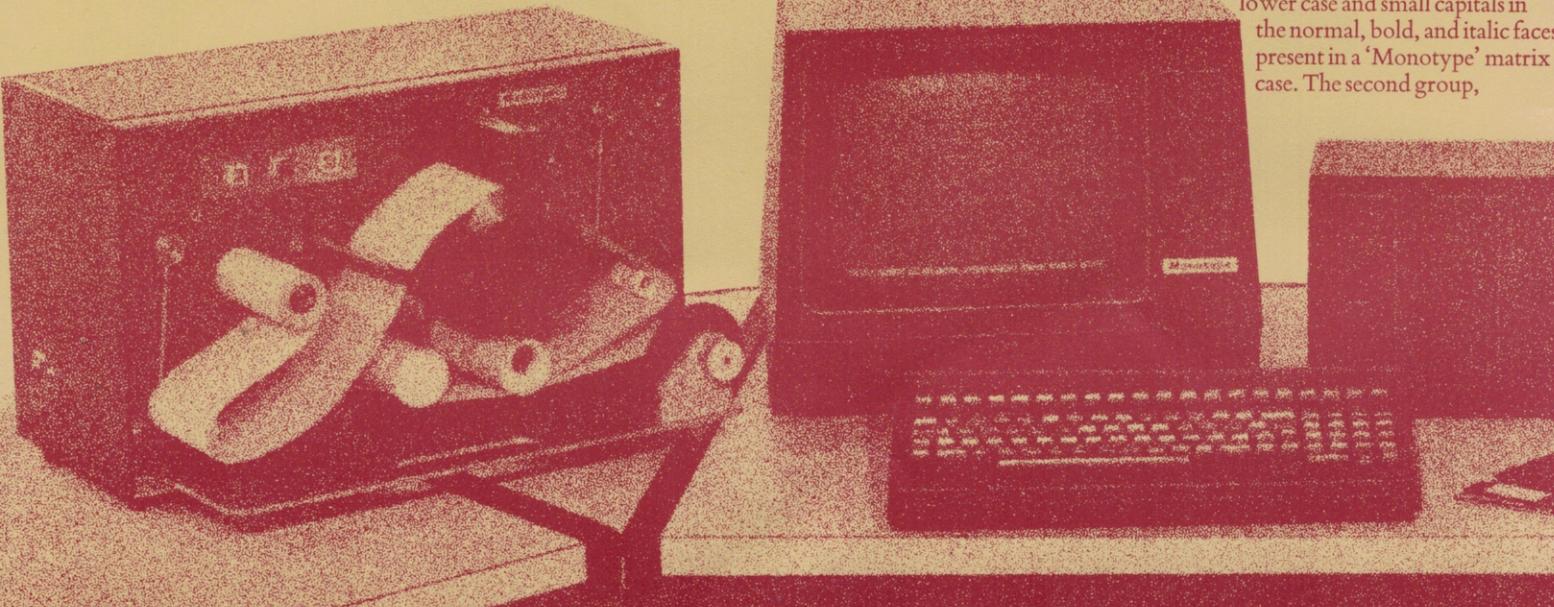
There are three programs:

**The text editor**, which allows the operator to enter text at the keyboard and correct it, store it on disc and manipulate it by inserting stored 'blocks' at will. It also controls the automatic range left, right, and centring functions, and enables jobs keyed for one face, size, and measure to be simply re-formed for another specification.

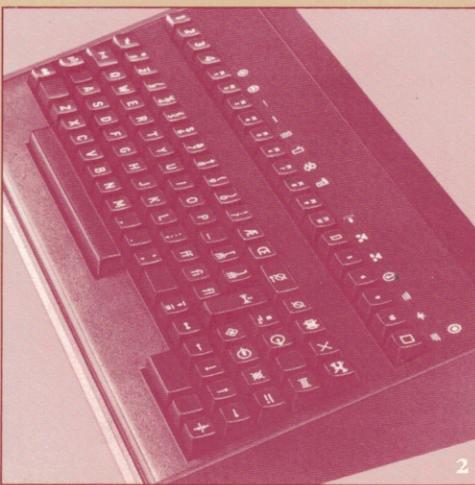
## 2. The keyboard

The keyboard, which is formatted specifically for text entry, editing, and typographical input, has three groups of keys.

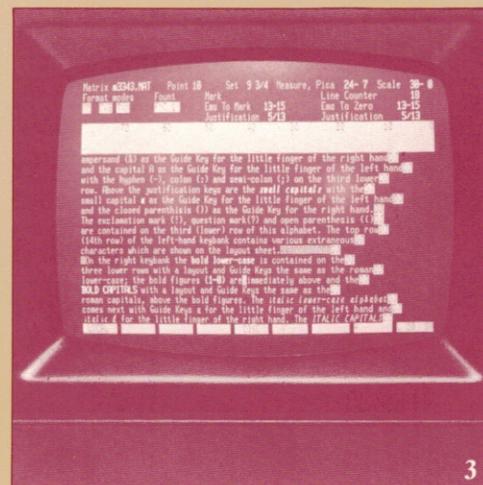
First of all, there is the standard 48-key 'typewriter' array which, with the shift key, gives access to the full range of upper and lower case and small capitals in the normal, bold, and italic faces present in a 'Monotype' matrix case. The second group,



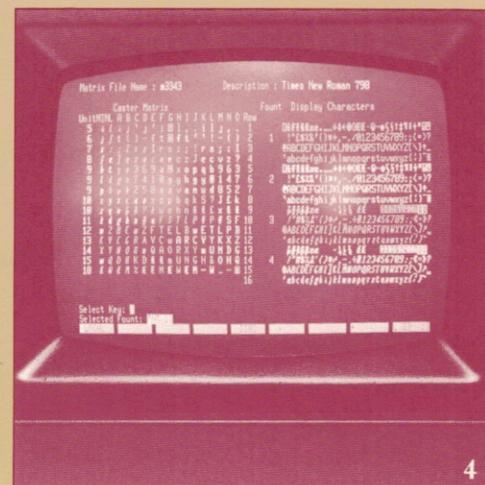
# ver is: false



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forming a row across the top of the keyboard, provides access to special characters and also controls various program functions. An additional supershift mode enables keys to perform various other functions such as format selection, text justification, and fixed space commands. The third block provides all the editing controls.

This comprehensive range of functions gives the operator flexible but complete control over his work which, coupled with the full information feedback from the screen, adds up to greater speed and accuracy than ever before.

### 3. Text entry and editing

The bright, legible display screen can show up to 24 80-character lines plus one line reserved for error messages. It is capable of storing and displaying up to 256 characters, so to cater for the 272 in a 'Monotype' matrix case, two intensity settings are used, with the brighter one simulating bold faces, yielding a total of 512 characters which can be displayed.

In the text-entry/editing mode, the top few lines of the screen provide a status display area, showing the matrix case in use by name, point-size, and set-size; the fount (i.e. bold, etc), the measure and all text formatting commands in force, and a continuously updated read-out of

justification figures. Immediately below this is the em-scale, which is calibrated in scale ems and reflects the measure set-up.

The rest of the screen is for the display of text being entered or edited on the system. Text formatting commands are also shown, in position, in inverted (negative) form to distinguish them from text characters.

A bright cursor, which can be moved to any point on the screen using special keys, indicates the working position.

### 4. The Matrix Program

In order to give valid instructions to the caster, the system must know the positions of the characters in a particular matrix case. In the System 272, this problem is solved by the Matrix Case Maintenance Program, which in effect tells the Punch Program which case position to

command for each keystroke. Details of the matrix case arrangement for each fount are held on floppy disc, and are read into the system at the start of each job, and the operator can display the matrix case arrangement for a visual check.

System 272 users can generate their own matrix case arrangement discs using a simple step-by-step routine. This feature will be very useful for users who have extensive libraries of 'Monotype' founts, and those who use non-standard matrix case formats for specialised work. It also means that when a user buys a new 'Monotype' fount, all he has to buy is the matrix case and a wedge.

*The line printer produces very clean, high-quality output, with all command symbols suppressed.*



# Specification.

## Standard equipment

**Keyboard** 100 character and command keys accessing 512 characters in the screen. 'QWERTY', 'AZERTY', and Cyrillic keytop arrangements available.

**Screen** 304mm (12") green display screen displaying 18 lines of 80 characters each. Vertical scrolling facilities. Memory storage of 5000 characters. Provision for displaying Roman, Italic, and Bold in different style.

**Microcomputer** Dual microprocessors each with 64K memory.

(2)

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**Disc-drives** Dual 133mm ( $5\frac{1}{4}$ ") floppy disc drives for program insertion, initial text capture, and editing/updating.

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**Paper tape punch** 'Monotype' 31-channel type, operating on-line.

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## Optional equipment

**Paper tape reader** for reading 'Monotype' keyboard output on-line into the System 272.

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**Line printer** Programmable dot-matrix type for hard-copy proofing. 128-character set in sizes 6-17pt, outputting at 288 characters/sec for proof quality, and 36 characters/sec for high quality.

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**Typeface option** Plug-in microchip module which gives the printer one additional typeface.

The paper tape punch and line printer are also available in free-standing form, with built-in floppy disc drives, for use off-line in multiple installations.



## Monotype

ML division of

The Monotype Corporation Limited, Salfords, Redhill, Surrey, RH1 5JP.

Telephone Redhill 65959 Telex 917125

'Monotype' is a registered trademark.

Design and specification subject to alteration without notice.

Written, designed, and produced by London Typographical Designers Limited.

Set in 'Monotype' Bembo 270 and 428 by Traditional Typesetters Ltd. using the 'Monotype' System 272.

Printed in England.

F Atkinson Esq  
The Government Printer  
Government Printing Office  
P O Box 203  
North Melbourne  
Victoria 3051  
AUSTRALIA

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**The Monotype Corporation Limited**  
Salfords Redhill RH1 5JP England  
Telephone Redhill 65959  
Telex 917125 Cables Monotype Redhill

Our reference      DC/LL/1006  
Your reference

27 July 1982

Dear Mr Atkinson

Re: 'Monotype' System 272 - A new Keyboard/Editing/Line Printer device for Hot-Metal Composition & Mechanical Filmsetters

Although you are doubtless considering the gradual phasing out of your 'Monotype' Hot-Metal Composing Equipment, I feel confident you will retain a small section to handle work for your letterpress department which you will need to keep in order to cope with much of the short run governmental printing you undertake and which is not economic to print by offset.

Obviously such a section must be made as efficient as possible and for that reason I enclose details of our new 'Monotype' System 272.

Of course, it can be argued that such a device coming on the market at this time is perhaps ten years too late! On the other hand the technology to make it successful did not exist until fairly recently, and this fact coupled with a resurgence in hot-metal demand has created a demand from our customers which must be met.

The 'Monotype' System 272 will greatly improve the efficiency of your mechanical composing department as for the first time your 'Monotype' Keyboard operators would have exactly the same advantages as hitherto only possible on sophisticated filmsetting keyboard equipment.

These advantages can be summarised as being:

- 1 Greater productivity - due to use of small keyboard and VDU screen, plus automatic functions range setting left and right, centring, tabular routine and refitting as well as independent justification and manual hyphenation.

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- 2 Fewer keyboard errors - as VDU screen with scrolling facilities enables the operator to correct work as he goes along.
- 3 Easily made corrections - via floppy disc facility instead of manual changes from the case. The System also permits alteration of typeface, type size and measure thereby avoiding rekeying, plus the ability to move around, or delete blocks of text down to making individual character changes.
- 4 Ability to correct and edit work - produced on standard pneumatic keyboards by other operators within department who can now produce unjustified spools for subsequent editing, thereby increasing their own productivity.
- 5 Quicker production of proofs - for in-house or authors use immediately via hard copy print-out from high quality Dot Matrix Line Printer with variety of typeface and sizes. Production of 'clean' spools eliminates casting time previously required to reach final proof stage.
- 6 Lower Capital Costs - as when new typefaces required it is no longer necessary to purchase Keybar Frames, Keybutton Banks, Stopbar Cases and Justifying Scales
- 7 Less storage space - use of floppy discs eliminates need to retain galleys and standing type thereby releasing cash for other purposes.

A detailed Quotation is enclosed from which you will see the System 272 consists of various items, and whilst I am sure you will find the information self explanatory I nevertheless wish to draw your attention to the following:

- 1 The basic unit consists of a Keyboard and a VDU screen. The intention is that additional separate keyboards can be supplied for each non-Latin language to be composed and which merely plug-into the VDU unit. In your particular case this feature is not of interest as I imagine you only compose English and have no need to set Arabic, Cyrillic or any Indian languages.
- 2 There are three Hardware Peripherals available, being:
  - a) Paper Tape Punch, which naturally is essential.
  - b) Paper Tape Reader which is required if you wish to read and edit spools produced on Pneumatic or EP Perforators.
  - c) Line Printer for proof purposes, which obviously saves casting time, and in view of the high quality produced can be used as copy for photographing for a great number of jobs.

/Obviously



## Quotation

# Monotype

The Government Printer  
Government Printing Office  
P O Box 203  
North Melbourne  
Victoria 3051  
AUSTRALIA

*A division of*  
**The Monotype Corporation Limited**  
Salfords Redhill RH1 5JP England  
Telephone Redhill 65959  
Telex 917125 Cables Monotype Redhill

Our reference DC/LL/1006

Your reference

27 July 1982

One - 'Monotype' System 272, for the ultimate production of 31 channel paper tape to drive 'Monotype' Composition Casters 15 X 15, 15 X 17 and 16 X 17, with and without unit shift, 'Monophoto' Mechanical Filmsetter Mk IV.

- Keyboard with 100 character and command keys accessing 512 characters on VDU screen. Can be positioned to suit operator's convenience. Keybutton arrangement for English.
- 12" Visual Display Screen with vertical scrolling facilities displaying 18 lines of text with 80 characters per line at any one time and with file storage. Roman, Bold, Italic and Small Caps Characters displayed differently.
- Dual Micro-Processors each with 64K bytes memory storage.
- Dual 5½" Floppy Disc Drives for programme insertion, initial text capture, subsequent editing and/or updating operations.

Price: £5,550.00

1. This quotation will lapse after 60 days from its date.

2. The customer shall make payment in sterling in London and shall pay one third of the purchase price on acceptance of the quotation, a further one third on notification by the Company that the goods are ready for delivery and a final one third 30 days after delivery to the customer's premises, unless alternative terms of payment are mutually agreed in writing.

3. This quotation is based on the goods being for installation in the country to which this quotation is sent.

4. Every Contract of Sale is subject to our standard Conditions of Sale overleaf but in the event of any inconsistency between the above payment terms and those appearing in the Conditions of Sale, the above terms shall prevail.



System 272 Software

One - Programme for English Price: £400.00

System 272 Hardware Peripherals

One - Paper Tape Punch, on-line, 31 channel Price: £6,255.00

One - Paper Tape Reader, on-line, for reading 31 channel paper tape spools produced on 'Monotype' D and EP Keyboards Price: £5,275.00

One - Programmable Dot Matrix Line Printer, on-line producing hard copy output in sizes 5 - 14 point in proof quality mode at maximum of 288 characters per second or high quality mode at 36 characters per second, complete with one standard fount, of one typeface, for each mode, in single point size Price: £4,480.00

One - Line Printer Software Programme, for Latin Price: £265.00

One - Box of Six Ribbons for Line Printer Price: £35.00

Delivery: 12 weeks to shippers from receipt of order and Letter of Credit.

Prices: Ex factory. Packing to FOB UK airport £120.00. Air freight chargeable extra at cost.

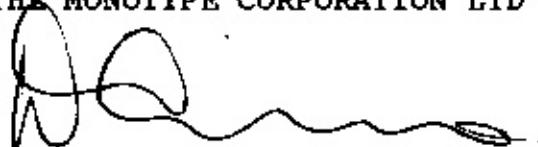
Payment: In £ Sterling by confirmed and irrevocable Letter of Credit to be established in our favour at a London bank and payable in full upon presentation of shipping documents. Letter of Credit to be valid for a minimum of six months and to permit part shipment.

Environment: Equipment to be housed within office type environment, as dust free as possible. A constant temperature of 21°C + 3°C is required together with a non-condensing humidity of 50% + 5%. A 'clean' connection to mains electrical supply is essential to avoid 'spiking'. Unless these conditions are provided our warranty guarantee is null and void.

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Validity: Prices quoted remain valid for acceptance for a period of 60 days from date of this Pro-Forma and subject to our Conditions of Sale printed on reverse of Page one.

THE MONOTYPE CORPORATION LTD



Derek Corkett  
General Sales Manager