Enhancements to System Manager and BOS on IBM PC compatibles

The repackaging of the IBM PC nucleus for the requirements of Global Technical Bulletin GT580 has given us the opportunity to make some minor enhancements to it. The enhancements are:–

- Support for 2.88 Mb 3½" diskette drives. Two new volume formats have been defined:–

V2A	2 heads,	80 tracks,	36 * 512–byte sectors,	99 files
V2B	2 heads,	80 tracks,	36 * 512–byte sectors,	250 files

  A new version of A.VTYPE, distributed with Global Configurator V8.0, is required before Global Configurator can be used to add these volume formats to an existing configuration file.

- Support of SCSI disks larger than 1 Gb. The changes outlined in GT576 have been included in configurations 5700 to 5711. The new version of the Adaptec hard–disk controller (component +J5CA09 in library +. J5HP) uses the SCSI class–1 READ and WRITE commands both of which include a 32–bit Logical Block Address field in the command control block. The System Manager (BOS) SCSI hard disk size limit is now 2 Gb. Please note that volume format P259Z, rather than P246Z, must be used for SCSI hard disks with a formatted capacity of 1 Gb or greater.

- The TTY serial console controller (TTY) and printer controller (S.PRINT) now recognise interrupt levels 10, 11, 12 and 15 (in addition to 2, 3, 4 and 7) if these interrupt levels are supported by the hardware. For example, the TCL CC/4D and CC/8D cards both support IRQ–10, 11, 12 or 15. The interrupt level is selected by the following prompt in the configuration file:–

  IRQ level: 2, 3, 4, 7, 10, 11, 12, 15
    0 = dynamically determine (0)

  Note that the dynamic interrupt level determination logic (enabled by specifying an interrupt level of 0) only tests for IRQ–2, 3, 4 or 7. If the serial card is configured to use IRQ–10, 11, 12 or 15 the interrupt level must be specified explicitly in the configuration file.