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RS catalog #90-0188

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—Stuart Hawkinson, RAINBOW

"Truly one of the best programs I have seen."

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"Elite•Calc is an extremely powerful worksheet ..."

—Jack Lane, COLOR MICRO JOURNAL

"Bruce Cook's Elite•Calc is a very fine program indeed; potentially one of the great Color Computer Programs." ... a very impressive product."

—Scott L. Norman, HOT COCO

★ COLOR COMPUTER WORD PROCESSOR ★

★ COLOR COMPUTER DICTIONARY ★

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Elite•Word™

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THE SECOND GENERATION WORD PROCESSOR IS HERE! ELITE•WORD is a high performance, all machine language, Full Screen Editor which offers an ease-of-use that is simply incredible. ELITE•WORD has many powerful features not found in other word processors for the Color Computer. ELITE•WORD also offers a printed output flexibility that can handle your sophisticated home and business applications.

LOOK at these features:

Very easy to use • Top screen line reserved for HELP display/Command prompts • Excellent for BOTH program editing and word processing • TWO text entry modes; Insert or Exchange • Auto Key-Repeat • Smooth display scroll for easier proof reading • True Upper/Lower case display with lower case descenders • Hi-Res text "View" mode displays text exactly as it will be printed; including text Justification, Auto Line Centering, dynamic Margin changes, Top and Bottom Margins, Page Numbering, and Page Breaks • Include feature (disk only) permits including several file names within one output document; total document will have sequential page numbering if desired • Fast Disk I/O; no loading of overlay files to slow down operation • Variable Text (Mail Merge) capability for Form Letter generation included FREE!

32K Extended Basic Required for ROM routine calls • Variable TAB stops • User definable Headers and Footers • Smooth cursor movement over text; in any direction (including vertical) • Page Forward or Backward through text • Jump to beginning or end of text • Automatic text centering • Automatic text Word-Wrap if desired • True Block text Move, Delete, or Copy • Delete entire screen line • Backspace and Delete Character • Delete character above cursor • Find a string of characters • Global Replace character string • Two Hi-Res screen displays; 32 x 19 for text entry/editing, 64 x 19 for formatted text viewing • Continuous Memory display • Over 22K file size in 64K machines • Easy generation of ASCII files • Save/Load text files (in ASCII if desired) • Program remembers last File Name loaded or saved, and will write to it by default if desired • All I/O errors trapped and recoverable • Disk commands for Change Drive, Directory and Free Space • Print Format features allow user to specify Left Margin, Line Length, Line Spacing, Top and Bottom Margin, Duplicate Copies, Right-Side text Justification, Page Pause, Page Numbering, and more • Dynamically change any print format features within text • Imbed Hex codes and printer Font changes within text.

Additional OS-9 version features:

Edit two files simultaneously • Save or Print only a portion of the text buffer • Edit files larger than memory (uses disk as buffer) • Block Copy from one file to another • Execute any OS-9 command from Editor

If you want powerful features AND a program that's EASY TO USE, Elite•Word is for you...

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OS-9 Disk \$ 79.95

"Elite•Word is a terrific word processor with an impressive list of features, yet it's easy to learn and use."

—Stuart Hawkinson, HOT COCO

"I was more than satisfied with Elite•Word... After the review, I would not hesitate to compare it with the two best selling word processors. And my comparison places it at the top of the list."

—A. Buddy Hogan, RAINBOW

NEW

Elite•Spel™

This program can't spell AARDVARK or SALUBRIOUS or VICHYSOISE, but it is very easy to use and it's FAST! All potentially misspelled words are identified in a single pass through its 24,000 word dictionary. ELITE•SPEL is fully compatible with ELITE•WORD and will work with ASCII files from other programs. By the way, if you often use the word AARDVARK, ELITE•SPEL can learn it and up to 4,000 other words that are in your common vocabulary. Dictionary maintenance for adding and deleting words is included as an integral part of the program, not as separate programs. If speed is what you're looking for, Elite•Spel has it.

MAJOR features include:

Easy to use, menu commands • Single pass dictionary search • 1,000 word memory dictionary of common words • 20,000 word dictionary included • Room for 4,000 of your own words • List suspect words on screen or printer • List all words used with number of occurrences • Learn individual words that were correct in file • Learn entire files of words • Delete words from dictionary • Apply corrections to file in batch or interactive modes • Works in single or multiple drive systems • All machine language for maximum speed • 32K disk required.

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Elite*Word Is Friendliest Yet

By A. Buddy Hogan

*Elite*Word* is a machine language word processing program for the 32K Extended BASIC Color Computer that is described by its distributor, Elite Software, as a second generation word processor. This means that it is built upon the features that appeared in the first generation of CoCo word processors and contains many features that expand the capabilities of these earlier programs to perform functions that users requested or are available in programs for other computers. As a user of both of the first generation CoCo word processors, I agree with the distributor's description of *Elite*Word*. The major advance evident in the use of the program is the degree of user friendliness that is designed to make even a first-time user of a word processor feel comfortable and able to achieve the same results as an old pro.

The program is provided in both cassette and disk form. The disk version is supplied in an attractive blue vinyl folder (approximately 9" x 6½") with two vinyl pockets containing the program disk on one side and the instruction manual on the other. This makes for a sturdy and attractive package. The disk contains two BASIC "drivers," one for 32K and the other for 64K, the two corresponding machine language programs that are "called" by the driver programs, and a *Test* program that is used in the tutorial section of the manual. In the 32K mode, the program will allow 13,512 bytes for input and for 64K the input allowed is 22,392 bytes.

A word processing program is basically an editor — just like the editor you use with Extended BASIC. It allows you to enter, manipulate, store, retrieve and print text. A few bells and whistles are sometimes added to allow you to perform system utility functions. Most expensive word processing "machines" found in the workplace are just computers that are dedicated to one function — word processing. These dedicated systems use multiple terminals, hard disk storage and high speed printers to perform essentially the same functions that you can perform on your CoCo for a lot less money.

*Elite*Word* begins with an attractive graphics display and then places you in the command mode. The commands that are available to you in this mode are displayed at the top of the screen. A new set of commands is displayed by hitting [ENTER] until you come back to the original set. These commands are called by entering the first letter of the command. You are now ready to begin entering text. But before the manual lets you go out on your own, four and a half pages are devoted to a tutorial using the *Test* program that is provided on the program disk. The tutorial walks you through the main features of the program and lets you practice each feature.

The program makes good use of sound to remind you when you are trying to do something that is not allowed. All errors that you may make are forgiven. You either get a sound telling you that you have to do something else, or in the case of I/O Errors, the program recovers without losing all the text that you have input. If you select any option that will wipe out everything you have typed, you are asked if you

are sure you want to execute the command. This is what user friendliness is all about. You don't have to be a professional word processing operator or programmer to use *Elite*Word* with ease. The commands that are available from the main command mode follow.

INSERT

This is one of the two main commands used for inserting text. If you try to insert text while you are in the main command mode, each key pressed returns a sharp sound alerting you to the fact that you have to hit [I] before inserting text. When you select [I], the display at the top of the screen changes to inform you that you are in the insert mode, how many characters are available for your use, how many characters into the text the current position of the cursor is and whether you are in upper- or lowercase (you use [SHIFT][O] to toggle upper- and lowercase). The screen display in this mode is 32 rows across by 19 rows down. Text typed in this mode is inserted to the left of the cursor position. If you position the cursor over a character that has already been typed, the new character is inserted to the left of the existing character (that's why this is called the insert mode).

The arrow keys function to move the cursor in all four directions; [CLEAR][P] moves the cursor one page forward and [CLEAR][O] moves it one page backwards. A neat feature is the smooth scrolling that is accomplished by depressing the down arrow and going forward in the text. The only thing I know of to compare with this scrolling is *Colortext* by Bertamax.

Errors are corrected by hitting [CLEAR][←] or [CLEAR][D] or [CLEAR][@]. Another neat feature in this mode is called Typomatic Key Repeat. This fancy title just means that if you keep any key depressed, the character will be repeatedly entered until you release the key. The insert mode is exited by hitting [BREAK].

XCHANGE

This is the other mode for the entry of text. In this mode, as the title suggests, any text that is printed over existing text replaces it rather than being entered to the left of the cursor as in the insert mode. This is especially useful when you are using the program to edit programs.

SAVE

When you select this command, you are asked for the name of the file to be saved. If you have previously saved a file during the current session, its title is shown. If you want to use the the same filename again, just push [ENTER]. This facilitates the editing and saving of the same file. If you want to give the file a new name, you just enter it at the prompt. If you don't want to save the file after all, just press [BREAK]. *Elite*Word* supports three file formats:

- 1) Binary — this is the format that will be used unless you select one of the other two. It is also the normal save that is used for most files. All printer controls are saved in this format along with the file.
- 2) Formatted ASCII — the file is saved in ASCII, formatted exactly as it would have been sent to the printer. A comma is added to the end of the filename to save it in this format.
- 3) Source ASCII — this is an exceptional feature that saves the file in ASCII, but first deletes all formatting of the file. This format is useful when you want to save a source code file or a BASIC program. In fact, 250 characters per "line" are permitted in this format for that

reason. A semicolon is added to the end of the filename for this format.

LOAD

The same three formats used by SAVE are used by LOAD and the procedure is very simple. The disk version, however, adds a very useful feature. The LOAD command will append any file loaded to the end of any file already in the buffer (provided that there is enough memory left). If you don't want to append, you must remember to do a NEW before you LOAD the new file. If you try to append a file and there isn't enough memory, you are informed of that fact and then the original file is restored.

QUIT

With this command you exit *Elite*Word* and go back to BASIC. Since QUIT destroys the file, you are asked if you are sure you want to execute it. I must report that when I attempted to exit the 64K version, I got a screen full of garbage — not that it mattered much.

WORD WRAP

This feature eliminates split words at the end of a 32-character line. There are times, though, when this is not a desirable feature. If you are editing a program, you want all 32 characters to remain on the line, so you would toggle WORD WRAP off by hitting the [W] key. The top line of the display informs you of the current condition — [ON] or [OFF].

JUMP

No, this is not a time out for a little checkers. It allows you to "jump" to the beginning or the end of the text file that you

are working on.

to execute the command. This is what user

FIND

Every word processor worth its salt has a global search feature that allows you to find a string of characters within the body of the text and then do with them what you will. Key [F] and you will be requested to enter the string of characters you want to FIND (the limit is one screen line of characters). The program will perform a forward search in the text for the string. If it finds it, the cursor will appear under the first character of the string. You then do what you want to and if you want to find the next occurrence of the string, you just push the [A] key (for *again*) and the process continues. If the string is not found, the cursor advances to the end of the file and a zero appears on the top line of the display. It is important to remember when using this feature that the FIND string must be exactly the same as the string in the text. Upper- and lowercase letters and carriage returns must be observed to have a successful search. You must also remember that the search is forward only, so do a JUMP to the beginning of the file before beginning.

CHANGE

This is a variation of the FIND command that allows you to do a global search for a string and then replace it with another string. You are prompted for both the old and the new string. Otherwise, it operates exactly as FIND.

BLOCK

Move the cursor to the first character of the text to be blocked out and press the [B] key. A block marker that looks like a dark left parenthesis will appear to the left of the character. You will then be asked which of the three very

powerful BLOCK operations you want to use:

- 1) Delete — you move the cursor one space past the last character to be deleted and push the [D] key. The text within the block will be deleted and the screen will be rewritten.
- 2) Move — same as above but this time you push the [M] key. An end-of-block marker (bold right parenthesis) will appear to the right of the last character in the block. You are then asked where you want to move the block of text. You position the cursor there and push the [T] key and the block of text is written to the left of the cursor position. Unlike most other word processors, *Elite*Word* deletes the moved text from its original position as it moves to its new location.
- 3) Copy — the same as above except that the moved text is left in its original position as well as moved to the new position.

NEW

This command clears any text from the buffer and allows you to start entering or loading new text. You will be asked if you are sure you want to erase the contents of the buffer.

DRIVE

This command displays the current drive that will be used for saves and loads and allows you to change it to meet your needs. It's a good idea to store all text files on a separate disk, either in drive 1 or by disk switching if you only have one drive. *Elite*Word* comes with a write protect tab so you won't put text files on the program disk.

?DIR

Earlier mention was made of bells and whistles. This

command has nothing to do with word processing but is included because it makes the use of the main program much easier. This command will display a directory of the disk in the default drive and the number of free granules remaining. This is helpful if you are trying to remember the name of the file you want to load or if you want to know whether there is enough room on the disk for the file you want to save. To return to the main command mode, hit [BREAK]. If you hit this key while the directory is still scrolling, however, you will be returned to BASIC. But, remember, I said this was an extremely user friendly program. To recover from this apparently fatal mistake, just type CONT and you will be returned to the main command mode.

HIDE

When you are editing a text file it is helpful if you know where the carriage returns are. With this command you can make them visible and invisible again by toggling the [H] key.

G/W

Pushing the [G] key will switch the screen background color between green and white. Your personal preference in viewing and the type and condition of TV or monitor used will dictate which of these colors you choose.

PRINT

This command displays an output format menu that allows you to set the parameters that will be used to print or view the text file. You can set the top, bottom and left margins; determine the number of characters to be printed on each line (the limit is 250 and it worked fine on a 155-character IBM Selectric Printing Terminal that is interfaced

to my CoCo); set the line spacing and page length; right justify the printout; print up to 255 duplicates of the text file; cause the printer to pause at the top of the next page (so you can use single sheets in the printer); view the text as it will be printed (screen display is 64 x 19); if characters per line is set to more than 64 you may view the text from the right side also — but this only worked for me up to 129 characters per line); merge a variable text file (more on this later); cause pages to be numbered; and select various printing fonts depending upon the capabilities of your printer (the program requires that you enter these codes into the program in order for this feature to work — more later). You may start the printing at any page by indicating the proper number and, of course, you can also control the printer by embedding codes in the text.

There are some screen editing controls that we haven't mentioned so far:

[CLEAR][R] rewrites the screen. This is necessary if you have been doing some revising because the screen will have some blank spaces and other odd looks that need to be corrected for you to properly visualize what you are doing.

[CLEAR][C] causes the current line to be centered when printed (or viewed from the print menu).

[CLEAR][V] inserts a variable text marker into the file to be used to read in one line from the variable text file (hold on and we'll get to this shortly).

[CLEAR][S] inserts a marker in the text that causes the next line of the variable text file to be skipped.

[CLEAR][E] places an "eject" code in the text that causes a top of form feed (new page) when it is printed.

[CLEAR][.] is used to enclose codes that will allow you to set some of the print menu selections directly in the text. The key that is embedded is the same as that used to select from the print menu.

There is one print menu selection that is available only by embedding it in the text. To indent text, you embed [CLEAR][.][1][number of spaces that the text is to be indented][CLEAR][.] and then you return the text to the previously selected number of characters per line by embedding that code in the text right after your indent code. This feature allows you to have text indented within a document without manually manipulating the printout. Great news for term paper typers!

You may also send a string of Hex characters directly to the printer by embedding them in the text. This would be used by those who have printers that will do such things as backspace and underline. Disk users may print out more than one file at a time (chain printing) by embedding the filename of the other file to be printed at the proper place in the original document.

Now to the Variable Text options that we've mentioned several times. The Variable Text feature allows the user to design form letters or other documents that require the input of variables within the same text. The way it works is that you set up two files. The first one is the main file which has the text that will be used for all the variables. Embedded in this text are Variable Text Markers (VTMs) that tell the program when to include and when to exclude a line from the second file that is created.

Say you want to create a form letter that will go to a list of club members. You would create a file that contained, on separate lines, the first name, last name, street address, city, state, ZIP, telephone number, etc., for each member. Then you would create a main file that contained the salutation, then a VTM to include the first name of the first member

from the file of club members. You would continue to construct this main file so that it included all the variables you wanted at the appropriate places.

The reason you would use the Variable Text Skip feature is that you might not want to use the variables in the variable file in sequence. This allows you to pass over variable 2 and get to variable 3, for example. This is a major feature of *Elite*Word* and one of the reasons it stands head and shoulders above the other two major CoCo word processors. One of them does not have this feature available and the other sells it as a separate program at about the same price as *Elite*Word*.

*Elite*Word* requires that you enter the printer control codes if your printer has the capability to print emphasized, condensed, double strike, elongated, etc. You are told which lines you must edit and are told that you must enter the codes in Hex. An example is given of how you would turn on the emphasized printer font for an Epson MX-80. That's the only example of print font that is given. Each line that must be edited contains "DATA 0,0" and these zeros must be changed to the Hex numbers for your printer controls. You have to look in your printer manual for these codes and then convert them to Hex. You can also change the Baud rate for your printer if it is not 600 by editing in the new Baud rate in Hex in line 190. After all of these changes, you *SAVE* the revised program back to disk.

I mentioned that there were two BASIC "driver" programs for 32K and 64K. What I neglected to say is that these drivers are for the disk version only. Cassette users are given instructions on how to edit the cassette version of *Elite*Word* to turn on the print fonts and set the Baud rate and are also given a 64K driver program that allows them to access the full 64K for use with the program.

Documentation

The program documentation consists of a 48-page manual that is printed on both sides of 5½" by 8½" paper. The manual contains a brief tutorial and then a detailed explanation of each of the main command mode commands, output menu commands, screen editing commands, embedded format controls, a reference sheet containing all the command and control codes, an explanation of error codes that may be encountered, examples of how to edit the program for printer fonts and Baud rates and two programs — a 64K driver program for cassette users and a carriage return driver for users with printers that require a line feed to be sent with each carriage return. The manual is written in a logical and easy to understand manner. Technical jargon is kept to a minimum. The use of the word "delimiter" without explanation is the most serious exception to this observation (it just means that it is the code that goes on both sides of something else). I found only two typographical errors and, in general, was pleased with the thought that went into the use of the documentation by everyone, pros and rookies.

I was more than satisfied with *Elite*Word*. Before I started the review, I thought that it would be just another program that would copy most of what others had done and add a few whistles and bells. After the review, I would not hesitate to compare it with the two best selling CoCo word processors. And my comparison places it at the top of the list.

(Elite Software, Box 11224, Pittsburgh, PA 15238)

***Elite*Calc*: Impressive Spreadsheet For Home, Business**

By Stuart Hawkinson

*Elite*Calc* is a great spreadsheet program! This professional quality program has the performance required for serious home applications as well as small businesses. The number of features in this offering from Elite Software is impressive. It has all the functions you need to perform sophisticated "what if" business projections and prepare tabular reports, to maintain home records and to balance your checkbook.

Electronic spreadsheet programs offer such a natural application of personal computers that most owners of micros should become familiar with their use. You can set up a data worksheet with pre-programmed relationships between columns or rows, and interact with your calculations to explore alternative strategies. Since the calculations follow directly from entering or changing the data, you are spared the drudgery of manual arithmetic. In addition, once the relationships are defined, no computational errors are made.

As in most spreadsheet programs, *Elite*Calc* allows you to directly address columns and rows in your table. The columns are designated by letters and the rows by numbers, the same convention used by the popular electronic spreadsheets like *VisiCalc* and *SuperCalc*. The program allows up to 255 columns and rows. The actual number that can be effectively used depends on the size of your computer's memory and the amount of room used by each entry.

*Elite*Calc* maximizes the amount of usable space available to you. The program is written in machine language and makes extensive calls to Color Computer Extended BASIC (and Disk BASIC if you are using the disk version). This also means that you have some very powerful numerical functions and editing features at your command.

*Elite*Calc* is designed to provide most of the features found in the "higher priced spreads." Furthermore, it has a number of unique features that are unavailable in programs like *VisiCalc*, or found only in the expensive "advanced" versions. The program's built in *help* facility gives you two pages of command summaries. This frees you from reading the manual soon after learning the basics of operation. In addition to automatically advancing to the next cell in the sheet after each entry, the program also provides extensive editing capabilities. This is unique to *Elite*Calc*. The familiar Extended BASIC line editor is used to edit formulas and titles, making the system quick and easy to master. You use the same editing commands as in BASIC!

The full range of functions available in Extended BASIC are provided for establishing relationships among the data. You can use the common arithmetic operations of +, -, *, and / as well as exponentiation and square root. The trigonometric functions and logarithms are also available. A very welcome feature of *Elite*Calc* is the incorporation of the *IF—THEN—ELSE* statement of BASIC, along with the full range of conditional expressions. This is necessary for doing

many types of projections and decision making calculations, expanding the types of problems you can solve. Most simplified spreadsheets lack this capability.

Besides the normal arithmetic functions, *Elite*Calc* also provides some functions which are unique to spreadsheet programs. These include COUNT, SUM and AVERAGE for doing table calculations. You can also find MIN and MAX values or LOOKUP a value from any column or row. The only missing functions are those supplied with more expensive spreadsheets, specialized financial calculations like NPV (net present value) and IRR (internal rate of return). Also, you cannot code a value as NA (not available) in *Elite*Calc*, useful if your data are incomplete.

*Elite*Calc* allows you to enter an expression in place of a value. This means that you can practically dispose of your pocket calculator. If you need to enter the monthly principal on a three year, ten thousand dollar loan, just enter +10000/36. *Elite*Calc* will supply the correct result. Another unique feature of *Elite*Calc* provides a separate page of user-defined constants. You can keep *pi* or other necessary constants in a separate table, freeing up space in the spreadsheet for entries which are specific to your application.

The most remarkable feature of *Elite*Calc* is its sort function. Sort by either row or column, and the related rows or columns are rearranged accordingly. This feature is an expensive (\$100-\$250) add-on to many of the more popular spreadsheets. The sort will also work with text entries, allowing you to alphabetize a report, or other text items. This feature, in conjunction with *Elite*Calc*'s extensive formatting functions, easily prints reports which would normally require a sophisticated data base program.

*Elite*Calc* in the disk version is also well integrated into the CoCo's disk operating system. You can call for a directory listing before loading or writing a file. This feature is useful to recall the filename you need. Another friendly feature of *Elite*Calc* is the ability to switch from numeric to text mode for entering labels and headings. Calculations can be suspended while entering data to speed up the operations significantly. If more programs included these features, our frustrations with computers would soon disappear.

The program I reviewed is supplied on disk and is easily backed up for the user's protection. To run the program simply type *RUN"CALC."* The program automatically adjusts itself to your CoCo's memory size. The manual supplied with the program describes all of its functions in detail. (All functions except the conditional expressions, that is. What could be more important than *IF* statements for doing "what if" calculations? I only found out about them through reading the accompanying advertising. Their description was missing from the manual.) Included with the disk and manual are three applications with which to practice: a check ledger, a loan amortization schedule, and a sales report. The manual does not do much to teach you about spreadsheets in general. I recommend that you either obtain one of the many good books on *VisiCalc* or *SuperCalc*, or work with a friend's spreadsheet program to explore tutorial material. It will then be easy to adapt to *Elite*Calc*'s slightly different command structure.

My overall impression of *Elite*Calc* is very favorable; easily one of the best spreadsheets available for the Color Computer. It provides all the features that are required to do really serious work. *Elite*Calc* is a well designed piece of personal software.

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