

System Manager Software

The Scientific-Atlanta System Manager incorporates the best in controller capabilities while setting standards in user friendliness.

The System Manager user interface generates attractive easy-to-use screens that provide detailed information for functions such as pay-per-view (PPV) transactions and home terminal status.

Software Description

- Graphical user interface (GUI) using X Windows System software
- SCO UNIX-based to support future home communications applications
- Informix relational database provides flexible support for both text and numeric data

Features

- Real-time, high performance platform for increased throughput of billing system and (PPV) transactions
- Designed for 24/7 (system remains on-line even during backup, PPV scheduling, etc.)
- Detailed historical tracking of transactions, PPV orders, system errors, and billing for accurate records and assistance in troubleshooting
- Advanced PPV support for impulse pay-per-view (IPPV) and conventional PPV
- Automated channel sharing and scrambler control for time slots between PPV event promotions and previews
- Remote equipment configuration for setup of the Headend Controller and scramblers from the System Manager (reduces special trips to the headend to change system parameters or for troubleshooting)
- Supports multiple headends, both direct connect and dial-up
- Supports multiple billing computer inputs for added flexibility and increased performance

The Home Communications Network

The early generation addressable systems supported the requirements of premium service upgrades and one or two PPV channels. Today, Scientific-Atlanta's home communications terminals offer features including addressable subscriber messaging, numerous PPV channels, and integrated on-screen program guides. Communication is not only *to* the home, but *from* the home, which enables a variety of interactive and information services. These services include virtual channels with graphics, and Internet access.

To manage this Home Communications Network requires completely new capabilities and flexibility on the part of the system controller. The controller must offer high performance, ease-of-use, high reliability, and the ability to support future developments, while remaining cost-effective. Scientific-Atlanta provides the answer with the System Manager.

Simple Operation

As the Home Communications Network becomes more powerful and sophisticated, ease-of-use is more essential than ever. Scientific-Atlanta has responded to this need by providing an easy-to-understand GUI and pointing-device support capabilities with the System Manager.



System Manager Software

The high-resolution GUI is designed with simple menus in pop-up windows that lead the user through the system without confusion. Users also have the capability to access information about software parameters without erasing or concealing an existing screen display. A click on the HELP button provides additional online information. For added ease-of-use, the pointing-device capabilities are similar to popular PC software packages. This helps make navigation and information manipulation faster and less complicated for the user.

High Performance

The System Manager is a high performance, real-time, multi-tasking control system based on state-of-the-art microcomputer technology. It supports more PPV capacity than previous generations of controllers, which translates into being able to program months of PPV events instead of weeks.

7/24 Operation

To further ensure optimum performance, the System Manager can remain online, full-time, 7 days a week, 24 hours a day. Operators don't have to wait for low activity times to backup information. Online backup of the database can be performed any time without shutting down the computer.

Home Communications Capability

Messaging opens up a new avenue for marketing and revenue generation opportunities. The System Manager supports message capabilities in conjunction with advanced home terminals. Not only are group messages possible, but individual messages may be sent to the subscribers as well.

Now, operators can more effectively market services, promote PPV events, send billing reminders, or provide severe weather warnings to their entire system or to a single, targeted household. Or, operators can create imaginative new uses such as a personal greetings service or local billboard advertising.

Superior Security

As with all Scientific-Atlanta addressable products, the System Manager incorporates outstanding, integrated security features to help the operator control and protect system information.

For selective access, the System Manager accommodates multiple levels of password protection. Users access only the information needed for their job assignment or function without disturbing other data. The System Manager also generates transaction log reports. Operators are better able to track transaction activities — when they occurred and their origin (if they were entered from the System Manager keyboard or the billing system). Errors, PPV activities, and unauthorized access can be more easily identified and traced.

24-Hour Customer Support

Just as the System Manager is designed for 24-hour operation, so is Scientific-Atlanta's commitment to customer service. You can call the Customer Service Center at our toll free number, 800-722-2009, for 24-hour-a-day, seven-day-a-week assistance.



Scientific-Atlanta and the Scientific-Atlanta logo are registered trademarks of Scientific-Atlanta, Inc. Specifications and product availability are subject to change without notice.
© 1999 Scientific-Atlanta, Inc. All rights reserved.

Scientific-Atlanta, Inc.
1-800-722-2009 or 770-903-6900
www.sciatl.com

Part Number 717876Rev A
10/99