EXHIBIT H

Trackball Alternative: Let Your Finger Do the Mousing

I f you're still searching for the perfect mouse substitute for your notebook, Cirque Corporation's $99 GlidePoint offers an intriguing option in the form of a miniature touch-sensitive panel that you control with your fingertip.

The GlidePoint resembles a small makeup case in size and shape. The Microsoft Mouse–compatible device plugs into a notebook's PS/2 port. Run your finger lightly over its 2¼- by 1½-inch surface, and the cursor follows along; tapping on the surface is equivalent to clicking a mouse's left button. Or use your thumb to click left and right buttons located below the touch panel.
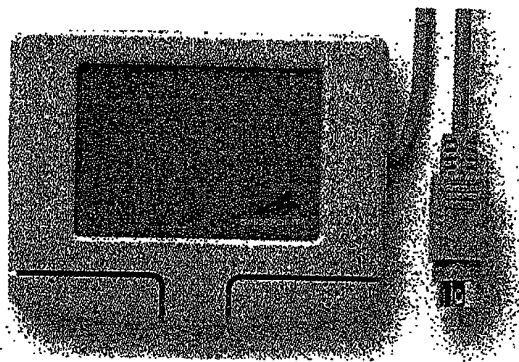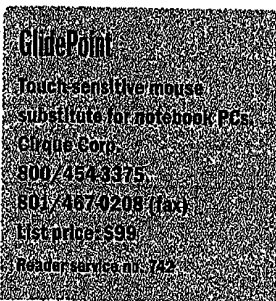
The unit's design offers several advantages over trackballs. Since it's small and flat, it stows easily in a crowded briefcase. It doesn't demand much room on airplane tray tables or in other cramped workspaces. You can even prop it on the surface of your open notebook so it occupies no additional real estate. And while trackballs are prone to pick up oils and dust—resulting in sticky performance and a need for frequent cleaning—GlidePoint should require little in the way of maintenance.

Extended use of GlidePoint also proved gentler on my hand than portable trackballs, which often leave my thumb sore. Moving my finger across such a tiny surface took some practice; at first the cursor tended to skid past my intended target. Within a few hours though—helped along by Cirque's handy tutorial—I was able to maneuver quickly and precisely around the screen. The unit's ergonomics falter only in the location of the right button; reaching it while keeping my finger in place wasn't easy.

—Harry McCracken

GlidePoint
Touch-sensitive mouse substitute for notebook PCs.
Cirque Corp.
800/454-3375;
801/467-0208 (fax)
List price: $99
Reader service no. 742

CIRQUE'S GLIDEPOINT gives users of portable computers a unique touch-sensitive alternative to mice and trackballs.

Control Network Printers From Your Desk With MarkVision

Y ou don't have to trek down the hallway anymore just to check a print job. Lexmark's new network print management utility, MarkVision, allows bidirectional communications between Windows PCs and printers on a Novell NetWare LAN. You can select a paper tray, receive paper-jam alerts, and more without leaving your PC. Lexmark is one of the first to offer this capability.

MarkVision is the most significant improvement in a set of software enhancements Lexmark has made to its IBM 4039 LaserPrinter family of network printers. The company has also added support for PCL 5e and PostScript Level II.

Lexmark 4039 printers with these enhancements will be called 4039 Plus models. The $1749 12R Plus prints 12 pages per minute (ppm) at 300 dots per inch (dpi), or 8 ppm at 600 dpi. It includes 4MB RAM (expandable to 16MB) and holds 200 sheets (800 with additional trays). The $2299 12L Plus has the same specs but holds 500 sheets standard (1100 with additional trays). The $3399 top-of-line 16L provides 16-ppm speed at 300 dpi, 8 ppm at 600 dpi. The 10-ppm 4039 10R and 10R Duplex models offer the Plus features as a $359 upgrade. Current 4039 owners can upgrade to the Plus features by adding a SIMM module to the printer and installing new software drivers for a cost of $359.

When you open MarkVision from Program Manager, you see a graphical depiction of the printer, along with a status report. MarkVision notifies you if the printer has a problem, for example, if it's out of paper, low on toner, or jammed. In addition, you can view printer configuration information, see if jobs are lined up, and select a paper tray. You do all this via MarkVision's on-screen representation of the printer's operator panel. A network administrator can change settings on any printer anywhere on the network from his or her PC.

Right now, MarkVision works with Novell NetWare 3.11, 3.12, and 4.0. (Administrators using NetWare 4.0 should note that the software lacks full support for NetWare directory services,

a capability Lexmark plans to add within the year.) Support is planned for Apple Macintosh System 7 later this year and for IBM OS/2, IBM LAN Server, and Microsoft Windows NT in 1995.

—Laurianne McLaughlin

Lexmark 4039 Plus printers
Windows users can monitor network printer jobs from their desks.
Lexmark Int'l
800/358-5835
List price: 12R Plus $1749; 12L Plus $2299, 16L Plus $3399; upgrade for existing 4039 printers $359
Reader service no. 743