

# COMMERCIAL-IN CONFIDENCE

SCIENCE RESEARCH COUNCIL  
RUTHERFORD & APPLETON LABORATORIES

COMPUTING DIVISION

D I S T R I B U T E D   C O M P U T I N G   N O T E   3 4 1

PERQ  
TECHNICAL NOTE 2  
Initial Damage Assessment

issued by  
R W Witty

26 January 1981

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                      RL Support/PERQ/General file

When the PERQ boxes were delivered the CPU Cabinet was packed in a small wooden crate. I telephoned UKTSD on the evening of 21 January 1981 and spoke to a Mr Dwyer, who said that the PERQ had arrived in its original Three Rivers packing damaged and UKTSD had repackaged the system. As delivered in the wooden crate, the CPU cabinet was wrapped in brown paper and string, nailed into the cabinet with no shock absorbing material present whatsoever. When Charlie Portman examined the CPU Cabinet, the following problems were apparent.

- (1) The main power cable is missing.
- (2) It was suspected at this time that the Bit Pad to CPU cable was missing. However, as we have two IEEE 488 cables, this might not now be true.
- (3) The plastic back cover to the cabinet is smashed at the rear.
- (4) The interior card cage was completely separated from the external mainframe and showed considerable evidence of having been rattled about and possibly dropped. The rear cover mains interlock switch is broken.
- (5) A loose screw and a paper clip were found inside the cabinet. The loose screw is probably the disc shipping screw.
- (6) There is a slight damage to the front cover where something has obviously hit it.
- (7) One of the three PC boards had come out of its slot. The one out of its slot was the CPU board.
- (8) Several inches of paint have been removed from the mainframe due to the card cage rattling about.
- (9) Two screws approximately 6 BA are missing. These are the screws which secure the card cage to the exterior frame.

- (10) The lower horizontal frame member of the mainframe looks as though the card cage has dropped on it and now has a definite kink in it.
- (11) The PERQ arrived in a wooden crate supplied by UKTSD, not the official Three Rivers packing.
- (12) The front mains interlock switch was not connected. This is probably due to movement of the card cage pulling the wires out of the switch.
- (13) The right-hand-side (as viewed from the front) side panel has had some of the baffling cut, probably due to the movement of the card cage.
- (14) There is a tear in the ribbon cable to the floppy disc. The insulation has been damaged.
- (15) On opening the box, the floppy disc drive was open and the shipping card was half out.
- (16) The left-hand-side monitor side panel (as viewed from the front) has a missing lug at the top.
- (17) The underneath of the monitor base panel appears to have a nut missing off one of the base plate securing bolts.