SYSTEM 88 HARDWARE

System 88 hardware includes the following computers:

	RAM memory	minifloppy 5"	floppy 8"	S-100 slots
8810	16,32,48,56K	1		5
8813/DD	16,32,48,56K	1 to 3		10
8813/MS	16,32,48,56K	0 to 3	2 or 4	10

TwinSystem 88

	RAM memory	minifloppy 5"	floppy 8"	S-100 slots
8813/DD	8K + 48K/user	1 to 3		10
8813/MS	8K + 48K/user	0 to 3	2 or 4	10

Each System 88 user requires one video display and keyboard, which may be either a separate keyboard with video monitor or the integrated CRT/keyboard enclosure. The video display shows 16 lines of 64 characters each, with the full ASCII character set including upper and lower case letters. Graphics capability is 48 cells vertical by 128 horizontal. PolyMorphic Systems was the pioneer of this configuration of character and graphic display, which is now used on many computers including the TRS-80. The high quality keyboard has the rarely found smooth feel that reduces errors and user fatigue. It includes a numeric pad and four special function keys for applications programs.

All minifloppy drives (5") are double density, dual sided with a capacity of approximately 360K bytes. The minifloppy controller is intelligent, containing a Z-80 and RAM memory that serves as a full-track buffer. The buffer can speed up disk operations"by as much as four times. The Z-80 automatically tests the complete controller hardware on each power-up of the computer.

Regular floppy drives (8") are available in both dual and single sided. The controller runs only double-density on these drives, giving a capacity of either 600K Bytes or 1.2 MBytes per drive. Since the 88/MS add-on contains two drives, and up to two 88/MS units may be used at once, the total capacity is can be from 1.2 MBytes to 4.8 MBytes. The controller for the 88/MS is intelligent, containing a Z-80 and RAM memory that serves as a cache memory for frequently accessed sectors. The sector cacheing can speed up certain disk operations tremendously. The controller tests itself on power-up.

PolyMorphic Systems

System 88 machines can have up to two serial RS-232 ports, for driving either printers or modems. Standard configuration is a single port for one printer. Serial parameters such as baud rate are all software selectable. The serial interface fits on a "mini-card" - another PolyMorphic Systems innovation - at the back of the chassis. This leaves valuable S-100 slots free and reduces overall cost.

System 88 mainframes have one of the finest quality chassis in the industry, with an internally reinforced steel chassis, brushed aluminum front panel and solid walnut cabinet. The 8813 chassis can also be mounted in the desk enclosure, with additional space for one 88/MS.