

### **Type DK8-EP Programmable Real Time Clock**

The DK8-EP real time clock option offers the PDP-8/E user a method for accurately measuring and counting intervals or events in a number of ways.

The DK8-EP system consists of:

- a. A 12-bit binary counter using MSI integrated circuits with an overflow bit.
- b. A 12-bit buffer register.
- c. A 20-MHz crystal clock with frequency dividers.
- d. A PDP-8/E module (M860) containing all control functions, IOT decoding, and registers.

Logically, the DK8-EP contains the following features:

- a. **Clock Enable Register**  
This register controls the rate of the time base and the mode of counting, and selectively enables each of the three input channels and the interrupt line.
- b. **Clock Buffer**  
The Clock Buffer stores data being transferred from the AC to the clock counter, or from the clock counter to the AC. It also permits presetting of the clock counter.
- c. **Clock Counter**  
This register is a 12-bit binary counter that may load the clock buffer or to be loaded from it. When an overflow occurs and the clock enable mode is 01, the clock buffer is automatically loaded into the clock counter. The overflow is set by the most significant bit of the clock enable register going from 1 to 0.
- d. **Programmable Time Base**  
The Programmable Time Base provides count pulses to the clock counter according to the rate set by the clock enable register.
- e. **Crystal Clock**  
The clock is a simple crystal-controlled clock, which operates at 20 MHz + or - 0.1%. MSI integrated circuit decade counters divide the base clock frequency down to any of the following rates: 1 MHz, 100 kHz, 10 kHz, 1 kHz, or 100 Hz.

### **Programming**

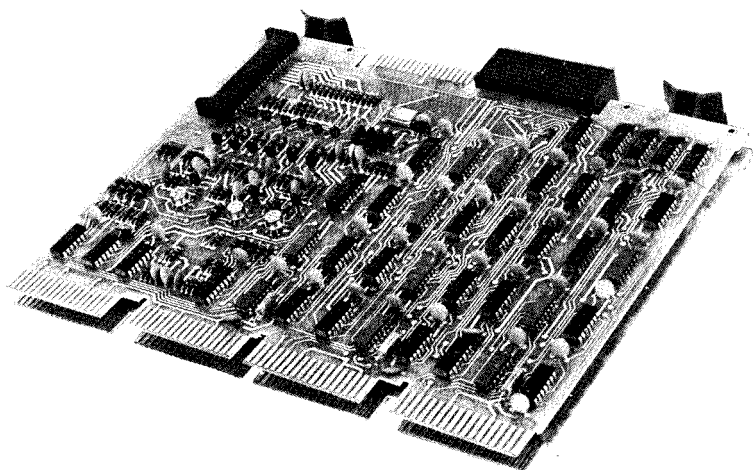
The following IOT instructions control the DK8-EP real time clock:

#### **Skip on Clock Interrupt (CLSK)**

Octal Code: 6131

Operation: Causes the content of the PC to be incremented by one if an interrupt condition exists, so that the next instruction is skipped. The interrupt conditions are as follows:

- \*a. Enable Event Interrupt 1 and Input 1
- \*b. Enable Event Interrupt 2 and Input 2
- \*c. Enable Event Interrupt 3 and Input 3
- \*d. Enable Overflow Interrupt and Overflow



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### AC to Clock Buffer (CLAB)

Octal Code: 6133

Operation: Causes the content of the AC to be transferred into the Clock Buffer; then causes the content of the Clock Buffer to be transferred into the Clock Counter. The AC is not changed.

### Clear Clock Enable Register per AC (CLZE)

Octal Code: 6130

Operation: Clears the bits in the Clock Enable Register corresponding to those bits set in the AC. The AC is not changed.

### Set Clock Enable Register per AC (CLDE)

Octal Code: 6132

Operation: Sets the bits in the Clock Enable Register corresponding to those bits set in the AC. The AC is not changed.

### Load Clock Enable Register (CLEN)

Octal Code: 6134

Operation: Causes the content of the Clock Enable Register to be transferred into the AC.

### Clock Enable Registers Functions

AC BIT	FUNCTION
0	Enables clock overflow to cause an interrupt.
1 & 2	Mode
00	Counter runs at selected rate. Overflow occurs every 4096 counts. Flag remains set.
01	Counter runs at selected rate. Overflow causes Clock Buffer to be transferred to the Clock Counter, which continues to run. Overflow remains set until cleared with IOT 6135.
*10	Counter runs at selected rate. When an enabled event occurs, the Clock Counter is transferred to the Clock Buffer, and the Counter continues.
*11	Counter runs at selected rate. When an enabled input occurs on any channel three, the Clock Counter is transferred to the Clock Buffer, and the Clock Counter continues to run from zero.

### Rate Selection

Contents of Bits 3-5	Octal Value	Interval Between Pulses	Frequency
000	0	Stop	0
*001	1	-	External Input
010	2	$10^{-2}$ sec	100 Hz
011	3	$10^{-3}$ sec	1 KHz
100	4	$10^{-4}$ sec	10 KHz
101	5	$10^{-5}$ sec	100 KHz
110	6	$10^{-6}$ sec	1 MHz
111	7	Stop	0

\* Available only as a LAB-8/E Option

- 6 Overflow starts ADC. (When the Clock Counter overflows, the analog-to-digital converter, type AD8-EA, is started.)
- 7 When set to 1, inhibits clock.
- \*8 Events in Channels 1, 2, or 3 cause an interrupt request and overflow.
- \*9, 10, & 11 Enable Events 1, 2, and 3
  - 9 —Event 3
  - 10—Event 2
  - 11—Event 1

**Clock Status to AC (CLSA)**

Octal Code: 6135  
 Operation: Interrogates the Clock Input and Overflow Status flip-flops. The clock status information is inclusively ORed into the AC, then the status bits corresponding to set AC bits are cleared. This ensures that only one occurrence of an Event will be transferred to the program. The status condition is established as follows:

AC Bit	Status Condition
0	Overflow
* 9	Event 3
*10	Event 2
*11	Event 1

**Clock Buffer to AC (CLBA)**

Octal Code: 6136  
 Operation: Clears the AC, then transfers the content of the Clock Buffer into the AC.

**Clock Counter to AC (CLCA)**

Octal Code: 6137  
 Operation: Clears the AC, transfers the content of the Clock Counter to the Clock Buffer, then transfers the content of the Clock Buffer into the AC.

**NOTE**

The clock counter may be read while it is counting. Gating in the clock control section prevents data from being strobed out of the counter before a specified time following a clock pulse. This time, approximately 300 ns, allows the data to settle in the counter.

This feature allows the counter to be read any number of times without introducing timing errors in counting the amount of time between intervals, and also eliminates false counts that are the result of reading the counter as one or more bits are in transition from one state to another.

\* Available only on LAB-8/E Option

### Example Subroutine #1

This example illustrates how the DK8-EP can be used as a double-precision (24-bit) free-running clock, using the clock counter as the low order 12 bits and a memory location as the high order 12 bits. Because all of the clock's registers have been set to zero initially by the clear key, the program needs only to zero the high order words, set the enable register, and turn on the interrupt. After 4096 counts, the clock counter overflows, signalling an interrupt. The service routine simply increments the high order word, then returns to the main program.

```
CLA
DCA HIGH      /ZERO HIGH ORDER WORD
TAD ENABLE    /OVER + MODE 00 + RATE
CLOE         /SET ENABLE REGISTER
ION          /INTERRUPT ON
```

ENABLE = OVERFL + MODE 00 + RATE

```
                /SERVICE ROUTINE
CLSK           /CLOCK SKIP?
JMP OTHERS    /NOT A CLOCK FLAG
CLSA          /READ STATUS, CLEAR FLAGS
SPA CLA       /IGNORE OTHER CLOCK INTERRUPTS
ISZ HIGH      /INCREMENT HIGH
JMP RETURN    /RETURN TO MAIN PROGRAM
```

With this simple program, time can be kept during program execution. With the clock set to its fastest rate (1  $\mu$ s per tick), this double-precision counter could mark time for only just over 16 seconds; with the clock set to its slowest rate, it could mark time for over 100 days.

A simple routine could be written to interrogate elapsed time by using the CLCA (clock counter to AC) command.

### Example Subroutine #2

The DK8-EP can also easily be programmed to function as an alarm clock, counting off a period of time, giving an alarm, automatically re-setting itself, and continuing. The alarm could be used to ring a bell, as indicated in the example; however, a more practical use would be to start an analog-to-digital conversion to take a number of samples from the outside world.

This example will ring the bell every second:

```
START,          CLA
                TAD COUNTER      /SET COUNTER TO -1000
                CLAB
                CLA
                TAD ENABLE        /SET ENABLE REGISTER
                CLOE
AGAIN,          CLSK             /CLOCK SKIP?
                JMP .-1
                CLSA             /YES, READ STATUS
                CLA
                TAD BELL         /RING BELL
```

```

        TLS
        TSF
        JMP .-1
        JMP AGAIN
COUNTER, -1750
ENABLE,  MODE 01 + 1 MS
BELL,    207

```

This program could easily be modified to work in the interrupt mode by setting bit 0 of the enable register to a 1. An interrupt would then occur every second, and this could be used to ring the bell.

#### **Type KP8-E Power Fail Detect**

The KP8-E and its related shut-down and restart subroutines are designed to restore computer operation automatically following a failure of the computer's primary power source. This OMNIBUS option protects an operating program in the event of such a failure by causing a program interrupt, enabling continued operation for 1 ms; this allows the interrupt routine to detect the low power as initiator of the interrupt and to store both the contents of active registers (AC, L, MQ, etc.) and the program count in known core memory locations.

Variations of the AC line below the predetermined threshold level at a rate of one per second or less will also cause the shut-down circuits to be activated. When power is restored the power low flag clears, and a routine beginning in address 0000 starts automatically. This routine restores the contents of the active registers and program counter to the conditions that existed when the interrupt occurred, then continues the interrupted program.