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The Wayback Machine - https://web.archive.org/web/20000307141139/http://www.ziatech.com:80/datasheet/1444.htm

High-speed IEEE 488 controller plus additional features for IBM PC and compatibles

Ziatech's ZT 1444A IEEE 488 interface makes it easy to integrate test and measurement systems. Over 4,000 IEEE 488-compatible instruments and devices interface with Ziatech's controllers through a patented backplate connector. Up to 15 devices can be attached to each port. Data transfer rates of up to 450 Kbytes/second are possible when used with DMA.

The ZT 1444A can occupy a short l/O slot and features an on-board, hardware-based security option. This option lets OEM product developers protect their software investment from unauthorized copying. More than 100 SBX boards are available from various vendors, including four available from Ziatech. One of Ziatech's, the zSBX 20, provides a second, independent IEEE 488 port.

DOS and Windows device drivers are included with the purchase of the ZT 1444A interface. Several other driver options are also available. The manual includes detailed hardware descriptions to provide trouble-free implementation.

- Optional security key prevents unauthorized software duplication
- EZ.488 and WIN.488 installable driver software included
- Complete IEEE 488 controller and talker/listener capability
- Data transfer speeds to 450 Kbytes/second with DMA
- Compatible with IBM PC/AT and equivalents

Functional Considerations

The ZT 1444A is a powerful IEEE 488 interface. The interface includes a socket for an optional security key. This controller is hardware- and software-compatible.

Complete GPIB Controller or Device
IEEE 488-compatible equipment is typically divided into two categories: controllers (masters) and talker/ listeners (slaves). The ZT 1444A can operate in either mode. It supports all functions defined by the "IEEE Standard Digital Interface for Programmable Instrumentation." Functions include the capability to pass control as well as to respond to interrupts from devices. If interrupts are required, a language other than BASIC should be used because BASIC does not support this function.

The GPIB (General Purpose Interface Bus) functions on the ZT 1444A is implemented with the TMS9914A GPIB chip from Texas Instruments. This GPIB control chip has gained widespread popularity for use in IEEE 488 devices and controllers because of its straightforward operation, speed, and second-sourcing.

Software
DOS and Windows drivers are included with the purchase of a ZT 1444A.

Security Device Option

An optional security device is available to provide protection from unauthorized duplication of software. This electronic "key" plugs into a special socket on the ZT 1444A. Software can then be designed that functions only when a specific key is in place. When copied to a system that lacks a key, the software will not operate. This prevents unauthorized usage or duplication.

Specifications

Compatibility
- Compatible with IBM Personal Computer bus and equivalent
- SBX socket's electrical characteristics conform to SBX Expansion Module (MULTIMODULE®) Standard Electrical
- Data Rate: 450 Kbytes per second (using DMA)
- Data Rate: 21 Kbytes per second (programmed 10)

Mechanical
- ZT 1444A occupies one short l/O slot
- Connectors:

--Socket for optional electronic security device
--Incorporates a patented backplate that accepts a standard GPIB connector.

Reliability
- MTBF: 55 years
- MTTR: five minutes (based on board replacement)

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