

RO-MICRO

***A COLLECTOR'S PERSPECTIVE /
PERSPECTIVA COLECȚIONARULUI***

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CUPRINS

- The collection
- Romanian Computer Industry vs. Global Computer Industry
- The continuous search for Hardware, Software and Information
- The community
- Events
- Repair and restoration
- Challenges
- Future plans

THE COLLECTION

- Includes:
 - mechanical calculators, electromechanical calculators,
 - very early electronic calculators (Friden EC30, Friden 1166),
 - billing machines,
 - Analog computers
 - mini computers (from Romania, Germany, USA),
 - 4 bit computers,
 - 8 bit micro's & home computers, CP/M Machines, DOS Machines, Portables & Laptops
 - 16 bit home computers, DOS Machines, Portables and Laptops, Palmtops
 - CAD Workstations, Movie production workstations
 - Paperwork, library
 - Software
- Storage: 3 locations:
 - 1. in my home office (around 50 computers waiting to be repaired/restored)
 - 2. my office (around 100 computers on display)
 - 3. Industrial storage (hundreds of computers, terminals and accessories stored on euro-pallets on a 3 level vertical shelf up to the rooftop)

ROMANIAN COMPUTER INDUSTRY VS. GLOBAL COMPUTER INDUSTRY

- Hardware – electronics – PCB – circuits – connectors
- Hardware – keyboards
- Hardware – casing
- Software – professional software
- Software – games

THE CONTINUOUS SEARCH FOR HARDWARE, SOFTWARE AND INFORMATION

- Sources for domestic hardware and software
 - online: ads, Facebook groups & marketplace
 - flea markets
 - recyclers
- Sources for international hardware and software
 - eBay and other auction sites
 - ads, Facebook groups & marketplace, flea markets
 - recyclers
- Sources for information
 - Documentation, IIRUC
 - People who used to design, work and service the computers
 - Books

THE COMMUNITY

- International community
- Local community
 - Members
 - Friendship
 - Collaboration
 - Auctioning



EVENTS

- Expositions
- Meetings
- LAN Partys
- Sponsored events

REPAIR AND RESTORATION

- Do's and don't's
- Sourcing documentation and software (including ROM images)
- Reverse engineering
- Sourcing spare parts / sourcing parts machines
- Component level repair
 - Replacing hard to find, obsolete, custom components
 - Rebuilding PCB's (capacitor and battery leakage, etc.)
 - Repairing casings and keyboards.
- Storage (pro's and con's in respect to modern substitutes)

CHALLENGES

- Tracing rare computers, documentation and parts
- Transportation of big / heavy machines
- Storage & Conservation
- Financing acquisitions
- Time for repairs and restoration
- Exhibitions

FUTUTRE PLANS

- Sort the collection
- Store all ROM images
- Professional pictures and videos for the Romanian computers in the collection, including boot-up videos, hardware and software presentation and 3D scan
- Online catalogue to include all the information above + scanned manuals
- Fund a physical museum with:
 - daily visitor access
 - hardware & software courses
 - Interactive (software and gaming on original hardware)