An interview with Fred B. Bialek,
Onyx Systems CEO, in San Jose,
December, 1981.

Q. Mr. Bialek, is it true that Onyx
has more experience with the UNIX
operating system than any other
microcomputer manufacturer?
A. Yes. In fact, Onyx is the only
microcomputer company with any
production experience with UNIX
systems. We have over 1,000 UNIX
systems installed. Indeed, many are
installed with the company that de­
developed the UNIX operating system.

Q. Could you explain that, please?
A. Certainly. Onyx was chosen
by AT&T Long Lines, a department
of AT&T, the developer and largest
user of UNIX, to provide micro­
computers for development, office
automation and other applications.
We worked with AT&T Long Lines
to bring up UNIX System III on
our C8002 machines for their
internal use.

Q. That gives Onyx an edge in
UNIX experience, doesn’t it?
A. You’re absolutely right.
We know UNIX systems better than
any other microcomputer manu­
facturer. Wouldn’t you rather buy
UNIX hardware and software from
a company that has been shipping
and supporting UNIX systems for
more than a year and a half?
Q. Western Electric has just
announced UNIX System III, a
“commercial” UNIX system, with
a new lower pricing structure. Won’t
this bring a lot of competition
into the UNIX arena?
A. Of course. The UNIX operat­
ing system is becoming recognized
as the operating system of choice
for 16-bit microcomputers, some­
ting that we anticipated more
than three years ago when we began
development of the C8002, spe­
cifically for the UNIX operating sys­
tem. We’re one to two years ahead
of the competition in UNIX systems.

Q. Why is Onyx so far ahead?
A. Many companies are announc­
ing new 16-bit UNIX systems for
delivery next year. A year and a half
of selling and supporting UNIX
systems has given us a head start, not
only in better support of existing
products, but also a significant lead
in the development of the next
generation of equipment.

Q. Would you like to say some
more good things about Onyx
Systems, Mr. Bialek?
A. Not in an interview. I suggest
that you read our ads, or, better yet,
talk to some of our customers.

Advertisement
UNIX System III has been running
on the Onyx C8002 for over a year
inside AT&T Long Lines. Onyx was
AT&T Long Lines’ choice in
microcomputers.
The C8002 is a powerful 16-bit
system from Onyx. It features
expandable memory up to 1 Mbyte
disk storage up to 160 Mbytes
on-line. The C8002 also has a number
of “big system” features, such as
cartridge tape back-up with cyclic
redundancy checking on every back­
up, and over a year and a half of
field proven reliability.

Onyx Systems Inc. manufactures
a full line of business microcom­
puters, from the new integrated 8-bit
Sundance, running under CP/M®
or OASIS®, to the C8002 16-bit
machine, running the UNIX operat­
ing system.

For more information write Onyx
Systems Inc. Or call (408) 946-6330.

Make the Connection

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OASIS is a trademark of Phase One Systems Inc.
Sundance is a trademark of Onyx Systems.