

Available Page Braille Embossers

J.M. Gill

This article summarises the main features of the four page braille embossers which are currently commercially-available. No attempt has been made to systematically evaluate these devices or even to verify the manufacturers' claims. However the names and addresses of known purchasers have been included so that you can obtain advice from those with experience in operating these embossers.

Table 1 Some features of the page braille embossers

Model	Brailleboss	LED-1	LED-120	SAGEM
Maximum baud rate	150	110	1200	150
Page width (braille cells)	38 or 42	40	40	31 or 40
Quality of embossing	fair	excellent	good	excellent
Overall dimensions (mm)	height 1555	940	1035	235
	width 665	635	610	525
	depth 580	635	840	525
Weight (kg)	84	114	114	25
Basic cost (US Dollars)	6500	6200	12000	3283
Keyboard included in basic cost	no	yes	yes	no
Double-sided embossing optional	no	no	no	yes
Advertised delivery (months)	0	3	3-4	6
Sales	North America 8	5	27	0
	Europe 5	0	3	7
	Other Continents 1	0	0	0

Brailleboss

Manufacturer: Rehabilitation Engineering, Building
31-063, Massachusetts Institute of
Technology, 77 Massachusetts Avenue,
Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139, USA.

Foreign agents: None.

Dimensions: 665 x 580 x 1555 mm high

Weight: 84 kg

Power requirements: 115 volts, 60Hz or 240 volts, 50Hz

Speed: up to 16 cps

Interfaces: EIA, TTY, others optional

Input codes: ASCII

Delivery: Immediate

Price: US \$6500.00

Guarantee: None but every assistance is given
to users in the form of advice on
trouble shooting, spare parts when
available or technical drawings.

Users: 1. Sensory Aids Evaluation and
Development Center, MIT, USA.

2. Dr. J. Morrison, Department of
Transportation, Massachusetts, USA.

3. Perkins School for the Blind, Watertown,
Massachusetts, USA.

4. Worcester Polytechnical Institute, USA.

5. Honeywell, Phoenix, Arizona, USA.
6. D. Keeping, University of Manitoba, Canada.
7. T. Hicks, Engine Division, Rolls Royce, Bristol, England.
8. J. McSpadden, Internal Revenue Service, Little Rock, Arkansas, USA.
9. Arkansas Enterprises for the Blind, USA
10. Penn State University, USA
11. Learning Resource Center, Middle Tennessee State University, USA
12. Scientific Research Foundation, Israel.
13. University of Nottingham, England.
14. Warwick Research Unit for the Blind, University of Warwick, Coventry, England.
15. University of Lulea, Sweden
16. University of Bradford, England

LED-1

Manufacturer: Triformation Systems Inc., 3132 S.E.
Jay Street, P.O. Box 2433, Stuart,
Florida 33494, USA.
Tel. (305) 283-4817

European agent: None.

Dimensions: 25 x 25 x 37 inches high

Weight: 250 lbs.

Power requirement: 115 V.A.C., 60Hz, 300 Watts

Speed: 10 cps

Interfaces: TTY, EIA, others optional

Input codes: ASCII, Baudot, others optional

Delivery: 90 days

Price: US \$6,200.00

Guarantee: None

Purchasers:

1. J. Covici, 2 World Trade Center, 19th
Floor, New York, NY 10048, USA
2. Western Union Co., 308 West Rt. 38,
Moorestown, N.J. 08057, USA
3. Dow Chem. Co., Freeport, Texas
77541, USA

- 4. University of West Ont., Dept. of
Computer Science, Room 2036,
Eng. Science Bldg., London 72,
Ontario, Canada
- 5. WIEN Radio, 149 1/2 So. Main St.,
Adrian, Mich. 49221, USA

LED-120

Manufacturer: Triformation Systems Inc., 3132 S.E.
Jay Street, P.O. Box 2433, Stuart,
Florida 33494, USA
Tel. (305) 283-4817

European agent: None

Dimensions: 25 x 30 x 37 inches high

Power requirement: 115 V.A.C., 60Hz (other voltages
available at extra cost)

Speed: 120 cps

Interfaces: EIA, TTY, others optional

Input codes: ASCII, EBCDIC, BCD, Correspondence,
Baudot, others optional

Delivery: 90 to 120 days

Price: \$12,000.00

Guarantee: None

Purchasers:

1. Arkansas Enterprises F/T Blind, 2811
Fair Park Blvd., Little Rock,
Arkansas 72204, USA
2. John Merz, 109 Maple Lane, Hillsmere
Shores, Maryland 21404, USA
3. University of Calif., Berkley
4. General Mills, Inc., 9200 Wayzata Blvd.,
Minneapolis, Minn. 55426

