Analysts and editors applaud IDG intros

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need for wearing cumbersome, heavy and uncomfortable active shutter glasses that are electrically connected to the display.” The passive Tek glasses have no electrical connections and do not disrupt normal viewing.

Existing Tek 3D software is ready to run on the 4126.

The 4126 clarifies understanding of images in such areas as mechanical design, solids modeling, molecular modeling, simulation, manufacturing robotics, mapping, geophysical engineering and ergonomic design. Morgan Hewells (GWD Marketing manager) says the 4126 will have immediate application in these areas using Tek software.

But it will be exciting, he says, to see what new uses are found for the product, and what third-party software is developed.

Those areas might include fashion design and modeling for plastic surgery, he said. (If you wanted a nose job, for example, you could view your new look in 3D from all angles.) It could be used to show objects interacting with their environment, as in simulated automobile crashes.

Another new product at NCGA helps ease the craving of those people who think that all computing should be done on a PC.

IDG is showing software, a monitor, and plug-in board that give IBM AT/XT PC’s (and compatibles) the color graphics capabilities of Tek’s 4105/4107 computer graphics terminals.

The new package, in effect, turns a PC into a standalone 4105/4107, which normally depend on a host computer for their full capability.

IDG put the package together by combining their “smarts” with those of Grafpoint Inc., of San Jose, Calif., and with Texas Instruments.

Tek recently signed an agreement with Grafpoint to buy and resell its TIGAF PC software that emulates 4105/4107 graphics. But to make the program work faster, IDG designed a PC plug-in board featuring a TI co-processor. The 32-bit TI TMS44010 is designed specifically for graphics processing and relieves the PC processor of the graphics workload. This board can also drive Tek’s 4000A, 3000A, and 3000B monitors.

To complete the package, IDG offers a high resolution 13 inch monitor for a higher quality display.

Besides standalone applications, PC users can now have local access to high quality Tek color graphics running on their more powerful computers.

The new PC graphics products are aimed at applications like computer-aided design, technical data analysis, and business presentation graphics.

This package enables Tek to tap into a high-end PC graphics market that was projected at $320 million for 1986 by Datquest. That market is expected to grow 50 percent a year over the next four years.