FUNCTIONAL UNITS

Nachdruck von "FUNCTIONAL UNITS" (US Form 225-6135-1)
als Lehrbuch für den TECHNISCHEN AUSSENDIENST zum Studium
der englischen Sprache.
Hierzu in deutsch "Grundelemente in IBM-Lochkartenmaschinen"
(IBM Form 59 020).
Ausgegeben an:

Adresse:

Bei Verlust dieses Buches bitten wir den Finder um Rückgabe

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ACCUMULATING MECHANISMS

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IBM ACCOUNTING MACHINES can be classified to perform the following five functions: punching, arranging, accumulating, printing and calculating.

Each machine type is different in its construction, capacity and application; yet many basic units of the machines are common in their construction and in the operations which they perform. When the customer or prospective customer points out a need for a new machine to perform a new accounting operation, a design engineer is assigned to the project of developing such a machine. The engineer's knowledge of the basic units enables him to visualize quickly the overall design of the machine.

Because each unit is capable of performing some particular operation, such as moving the card, punching the card, reading the card, accumulating information or printing information, these may be studied as functional units by the student customer engineer.

The final machine design is a result of assembling the basic units which perform the mechanical work, connecting and controlling them by means of electrical circuits.

This manual is written with the objective of introducing the new customer engineer to the functional principles incorporated in the IBM machines and acquainting him with the terminology which is peculiar to the accounting machine industry.

By studying these mechanisms individually before being introduced to the completely assembled machine, the student is able to reduce his learning responsibilities to a series of small problems. Once the student has learned the need and the application he immediately can appreciate how the machine performs the required operations. He knows what units should be found in the machine and, in general, how they work.

Because of this advanced background, he is able to learn the circuitry of the machine more rapidly, and he has a greater appreciation of the need for care in making adjustments to the machine.

Through functional unit training, a better trained customer engineer is sent to the field with greater knowledge of his equipment.