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ASTROCADE UNVEILS ZGRASS-100 PERSONAL COMPUTER ADD-UNDER AT

CHICAGO--Astrocade, Inc. (formerly Astrovision, Inc.) unveiled its ZGRASS-100<sup>TM</sup> personal computer at the Summer Consumer Electronics Show here today. The ZGRASS-100 is an upgrade of the ZGRASS-32 (introduced in January 1982) and converts the Astrocade TM (previously Bally Professional Arcade) video game into a powerful personal computer, letting video game owners create their own exciting animated games, as well as run CP/M business programs.

The ZGRASS-100 is targeted to video game players, artists, audiovideo and television producers, schools, personal computer users, and business users. The "100" refers to a total of 100K (100,000) characters of memory in the unit, making it a powerful computer capable of advanced

business applications as well as the creation of complex images and fast animation.

According to Astrocade marketing VP, Ray George, "ZGRASS-100 is the fun way to develop computer literacy and get involved in personal computing. Kids can start out by playing games on our Astrocade video game unit. With the Astrocade BASIC cartridge, that comes with the game, they can create their own simple video games and learn the fundamentals of programming. Then they can move on to develop animated video games and advanced personal computer programs with the ZGRASS-100's powerful ZGRASS language. They can also run many of the thousands of industry-standard CP/M business programs already available.

"Other personal computers require complex assembly language programming to create fast-moving images," Mr. George added. "ZGRASS-100 is the first computer designed specifically to create enjoyable graphics, instead of as a number-crunching business, advanced hobbyist, or scientific machine--even though it can do those jobs too."

Astrocade will provide four series of user-friendly programs with the ZGRASS-100: an Art Series for creating images and lettering fonts, an Educational Series (such as letter and number recognition and color math), a Personal Management series (including word processing, calendar

reminder, and checkbook balancer), and Video Game Image Series of standard images (UFO's, dragons, missles, animals, etc.) for creating your own video games.

The ZGRASS-100 user can connect two audio cassette recorders for storage of programs, data, and sounds. Other options include printer and a floppy disk drive or Winchester hard disk for storing larger programs. The ZGRASS-100 user can also connect a standard "modem" for accessing information banks (such as Dow Jones or the New York Times) or for sending electronic mail or graphic images to other personal computer users. The unit includes a standard typewriter-like keyboard with upper and lower case characters and a simple-to-use full-screen editor for word processing applications.

The ZGRASS-100 is priced under \$600 and will be available at Astrocade dealers in fourth quarter 1982.

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NOTE TO EDITORS: PHOTO AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST