

Honeywell Bull

THE HISTORY OF THE HONEYWELL/BULL/NEC RELATIONSHIP

- 1962 Honeywell and NEC enter into a 10-year agreement granting each other access to specific technology and products developed by Honeywell. The agreement is subsequently extended to 1982.
- 1970 Honeywell buys General Electric's computer business, which includes a 66 percent interest in Compagnie des Machines Bull, renamed Compagnie Honeywell Bull.
- 1972 Bull and NEC cooperate closely in the field of Current Mode Logic integrated circuits.
- 1973 Bull agrees to supply NEC with prototypes of the Series 60 Level 64 computer and source and object code for the GCOS 64 operating system.
- 1974 Honeywell and Bull announce a range of ten computer models, the Series 60. Bull provides Levels 61 and 64, Honeywell Italy Level 62, and Honeywell Level 66.
- 1976 Compagnie Internationale pour l'Informatique (CII) and Compagnie Honeywell Bull merge to form CII-Honeywell Bull, in which Honeywell has a 47 percent interest. NEC produces the Series 60 Level 64 computer from Bull under the ACOS/S-400 name. GCOS 64 is used as a basis for NEC's ACOS-4 operating system.
- 1982 Honeywell sells 27.1 percent of its 47 percent interest in CII-Honeywell Bull to the French. Saint-Gobain, the majority shareholder of Bull is nationalized. Honeywell and CII-Honeywell Bull cooperation is confirmed for common products and DSA network architecture development and world marketing. The companies continue to market each others' products.
- 1983 Groupe Bull is formed when CII-Honeywell takes control of the related computer and information companies of Sems (from Thomson), Transac (from CGE) and R2E.

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- 1984 NEC signs a 10-year agreement with Honeywell and Bull for cross-licensing of patents and copyrights and manufacturing and distribution rights to the NEC System 1000 (DPS 90) mainframe and its follow-up series. NEC and Bull agree to cross-license patents and copyrights and provide manufacturing and distribution rights to NEC System 1000 and follow-up products.
- 1985 Honeywell sells its Japanese marketing subsidiary to NEC. Bull agrees to provide NECS with DPS 7 computers with an NEC ACOS 750 central subsystem and Bull subsystems running under the GCOS 7 operating system.
- Honeywell and Bull jointly develop and deliver the latest release of their common Distributed Systems Architecture (DSA), the first networking architecture to implement all seven layers of the OSI reference model.
- Feb. 1986 Honeywell announces it will incorporate NEC System 1000 technology in its follow-on to the DPS 90 mainframe.
- Oct. 1986 Honeywell-NEC Supercomputers Inc., a joint venture to market NEC supercomputers in the U.S. and Canada, is formed with headquarters in Massachusetts. [Not part of Honeywell Bull Inc.]
- Mar. 1987 Honeywell Bull, a new computer company formed by Honeywell, Bull and NEC Corporation, is launched.
- June 1987 NEC ships first S2000 to the Japanese market.
- Nov. 1988 Joint development efforts by Honeywell Bull, Bull and NEC result in the introduction of the world's fastest general-purpose online system, the DPS 9000 computer, to the Bull and Honeywell Bull markets.

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