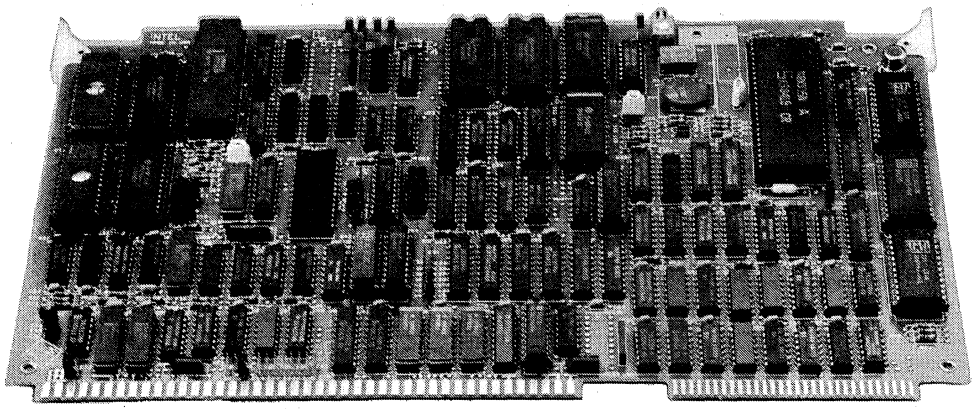
iSBC® 561
SOEMI (Serial OEM Interface)
CONTROLLER BOARD

- **Dedicated I/O Controller Provides a Direct Connection of MULTIBUS®-Based Systems to an IBM 9370 or 4361 Mainframe Host or to any IBM System/370 via an IBM 3174 Subsystem Control Unit via IBM's SOEMI (Serial OEM Interface) Protocol**
- **Physical Interface is via IBM 3270 Coax with a Maximum Distance of 1.5 km**
- **Maximum Transmission Rate of 2.36 Megabits/Second**
- **Dual I/O Processors Manage Both SOEMI and MULTIBUS® Interfaces**
- **Includes a SMC-to-BNC Cable Assembly to Attach into the IBM 3270 Information Display System**
- **On-Board Diagnostic Capability Provides Operational Status of Board Function and Link with the Host**
- **Supported by a Complete Family of Single Board Computers, Memory, Digital and Analog I/O, Peripheral and Graphics Controllers' Packaging and Software**

The Intel iSBC 561 SOEMI (Serial OEM Interface) Controller Board is a member of Intel's family of single board computers, memory, I/O, peripheral and graphics controller boards. It is a dedicated intelligent I/O controller on a MULTIBUS form-factor printed circuit card. The board allows OEMs of MULTIBUS-based systems a direct, standard link to an IBM 9370 Information System, to an IBM System 4361, or to any IBM System/370 attached to an IBM 3174 Subsystem Control Unit via the SOEMI (Serial OEM Interface). The iSBC 561 Controller also provides IBM System/370 users access to the broad range of applications supported by hundreds of MULTIBUS vendors.

The SOEMI interface is comprised of an IBM System/370 programming interface and an IBM 3270 coax interface. It is a flexible, high speed, point-to-point serial interface offered as a feature on the IBM 9370 and 4361 processor families and on the 3174 Subsystem Control Unit. The iSBC 561 SOEMI Controller Board contains two processors and provides the necessary intelligence for conversion, control functions, and buffer management between the IBM mainframe and the MULTIBUS system. This board allows an IBM user to distribute control and information to MULTIBUS compatible systems for a variety of applications including factory automation, data acquisition, measurement, control, robotics, process control, communications, local area networking, medical instrumentation, and laboratory automation.



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SOEMI INTERFACE OVERVIEW

The Serial OEM Interface (SOEMI) is a new means of connecting Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM) MULTIBUS-based systems and subsystems to an IBM System/370 mainframe. Previously, the only low-cost way to attach non-IBM equipment into the IBM mainframe environment was to use 3270 emulation software and hardware adaptors. This type of interface is low-speed (approx. 19.6K bits/sec.) and not very flexible as to the type and format of data that can be transferred. The 3270 emulators must mimic the device formats of the displays and printers that are typically attached on this interface; stripping out command characters, carriage return andl line feed characters, etc. The SOEMI interface is available on; the IBM 9370, the IBM 4361, and the 3174 Subsystem Control Unit model 1L. The SOEMI Protocol is much faster and more flexible, in that any type of raw data or formatted data may be sent across the connecting coax cable.

The SOEMI attachment into the MULTIBUS system architecture, via the iSBC 561 SOEMI Controller Board, extends the attachment capabilities of the IBM 9370, 4361 and 3174 to a variety of systems, boards, and I/O devices provided by other manufacturers. Figure 1 is an example of the variety achievable on Intel's MULTIBUS (IEEE 796) system architecture.

The SOEMI interface utilizes the System/370 Programming Interface on the IBM 9370, 4361 and 3174 to create the protocols and formats required by a given application for connection to and communication with virtually any type of OEM device.

The System/370 Programming Interface provides the standard System/370 I/O instructions for exchanging data between the host and the MULTIBUS-based system. System/370 applications see MULTIBUS system memory as one or more entities called "spaces." The System/370 host system program writes to and reads from these spaces. The user can define the number of spaces or the layout of fields in the SOEMI interface at his discretion and as required by the application and the MULTIBUS system configuration.

The 3270 coax interface provides the physical connection between the OEM MULTIBUS system and the IBM host. The coax cable (type RG62AU) can operate over a distance of 1.5 kilometers at a maximum transfer rate of 2.3587 Mbits/second. The distance of 1.5 kilometers can be increased to a maximum of 3 kilometers by installing an IBM 3299 Terminal Multiplexer (repeater) between the IBM 9370, 4361 or 3174 and the MULTIBUS system. The protocol at the coax interface includes a polling mechanism, a set of Write and Read commands, and requires a buffer with an address register at the OEM controller end.

The connection to the IBM 4361 is made via the IBM 3270 Information Display System's Display/Printer Adapter (DPA) and/or Work Station Adapter (WSA) coax ports. The DPA can drive up to sixteen 3270/SOEMI coax ports, and is the standard configuration. The WSA is an optional add-on to the IBM 4361 that increases the total number coax ports supported to 40. The connection to the IBM 9370 is made via the Workstation Subsystem Controller feature, and a workstation adapter which can connect up to

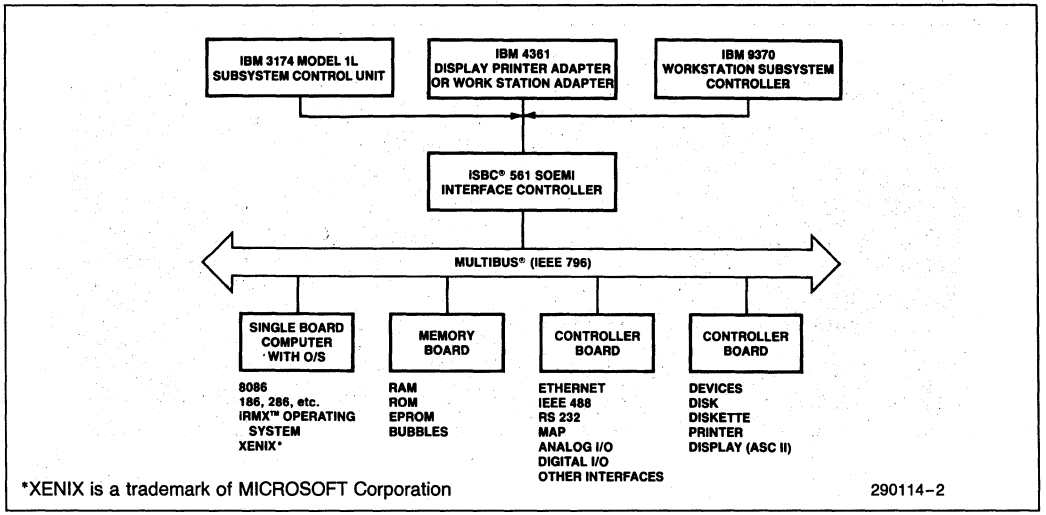

Figure 1. IBM 4361-to-MULTIBUS® Attachment Capability Block Diagram

6 SOEMI ports. This can be increased to 32 ports using optional terminal multiplexers. The connection to the IBM 3174 model 1L is made via IBM dual-purpose connectors (DPC) which can connect up to 4 SOEMI ports. This can be increased to 32 ports using terminal multiplexer adapters. A typical configuration can support an aggregate data rate of approximately 45K Bytes/second (approx. 360K bits/second).

OPERATING ENVIRONMENT

The iSBC board functions as a slave to the host mainframe, reacting and executing under System/370 program control as as mainframe resource. In addition, it has a full multimaster MULTIBUS interface that allows the board to arbitrate for bus ownership, generate bus clocks, respond to and generate interrupts, etc. With the iSBC 561 controller connected to the mainframe, all MULTIBUS system resources are available to the IBM host program/controller. From the IBM side, the mainframe is capable of accessing the entire 16 MBytes of MULTIBUS system memory, 64K Bytes of I/O space, and all on-board resources of the iSBC 561 board. Other intelligent MULTIBUS boards access iSBC 561 controller services through normal interrupt mechanisms.

Using the SOEMI interface in a relatively low-level application may simply require the user to write System/370 application control programs that reside in the IBM mainframe. A more elaborate implementation would also involve application programs that reside in the MULTIBUS system under its "native" op-

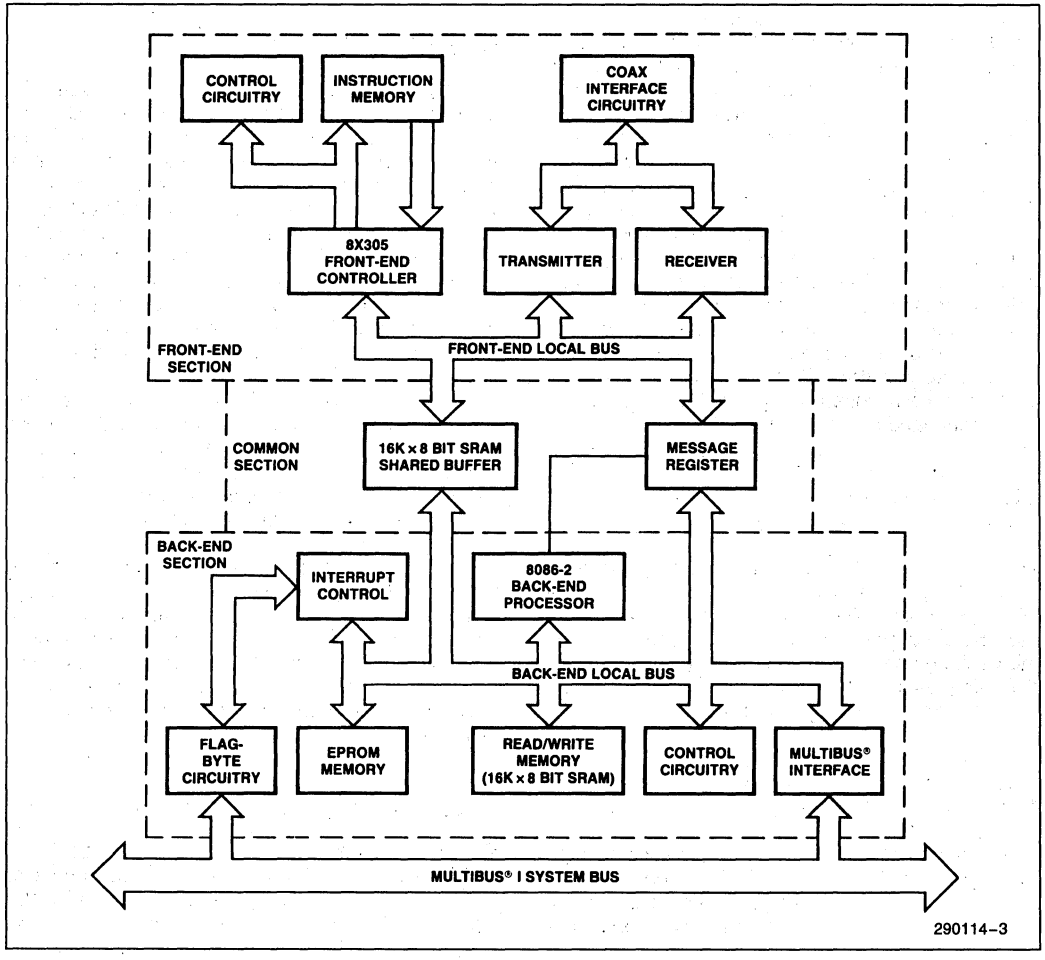

Figure 2. iSBC® 561 SOEMI (Serial OEM Interface) Controller Board Functional Block Diagram

erating environment (i.e., iRMX or XENIX operating systems) and an end-to-end protocol that ties both sets of application programs together.

ARCHITECTURE

The iSBC 561 board is functionally partitioned into three major sections: the front-end section, the common section, and the back-end section (see Figure 2).

Front-End Processor Section: IBM Host Interface

The front-end section of the iSBC 561 Controller board interfaces with the IBM mainframe via the IBM 3270 Information Display System, and consists of an 8X305 Signetics microcontroller, the 8X305 instruction memory, and the coaxial interface. The 8X305 executes the coax commands and places the structured field's instructions in shared memory buffers for subsequent execution by the back-end processor. The front-end instruction memory consists of three 2K x 8-bit PROMs which provide the instruction code for the 8X305 processor and the information needed to generate the various control signals required by the 8X305 to elicit system functions. The information contained in each PROM is not modifiable by the user. The coaxial interface is based on a DP8340 transmitter component that converts 8-bit parallel data received from the front-end processor to a 12-bit serial stream, and a DP8341 receiver component, that converts a 12-bit serial stream of data from the mainframe to parallel data with separated command and parity bits.

Common Section: Shared Memory Buffer

The common section of the iSBC 561 board consists of two 8-bit, bi-directional message registers and a 16K x 8-bit static RAM shared buffer. This shared memory buffer between the front-end processor and the back-end processor is the resource for transferring information and control messages between the IBM host and the MULTIBUS system.

Back-End Processor Section: MULTIBUS® Interface

The back-end section of the board provides an intelligent interface to the MULTIBUS system bus, and consists of the 8086-2 microprocessor, local memory, bus interface circuitry, and memory-mapped logic. The 8086 processor is capable of either retrieving information the 8X305 placed in the shared buffer, or placing information in the shared buffer, depending on the direction of the transfer and type of operation or task to be performed. The information is stored in the shared buffer as a set(s) of structured fields. The back-end processor transfers this information by performing 8- or 16-bit data transfers to or from the MULTIBUS system bus, the shared buffer, and the local memory.

The control program for this high-speed, back-end processor is resident in two local ROM sites. The processor also has access to 16K bytes of static RAM for local data storage.

The back-end section interfaces to other MULTIBUS boards through two bus controllers, a bus arbiter, and the address, data, and command buffers for access over the 24 address lines and 16 data lines of the MULTIBUS system bus.

OPERATION FLOW

The commands and information passed along the coax by the IBM host to the iSBC 561 controller represent what is known as a "structured field." The iSBC 561 front-end processor strips out the 12-bit protocol header deposits the remaining structured field(s) in the shared memory buffer, and notifies the back-end processor. The back-end processor then processes these structured fields in order to access the proper MULTIBUS memory space and I/O ports. It then deposits the information or task in the space and notifies the MULTIBUS subsystem master that a transfer has occurred and is awaiting service.

When requiring service, the MULTIBUS system application sends an interrupt to the iSBC 561 board. The board then issues an attention to the mainframe. At this point, the mainframe is under no obligation or time constraint to service the interrupt, and its response is application dependent.

The mainframe issues commands to service the interrupt. The information concerned with the interrupt is then passed through the shared memory and serialized by the iSBC 561 board before being sent to the mainframe. The exact communications protocol used for this end-to-end transfer is defined by the user application programs running in both operating environments.

Interface Connector/Cable Assembly

The cable assembly used to connect the iSBC 561 SOEMI Controller Board to the IBM mainframe or 3174 control unit cable assembly consists of RG180 type cable having an SMC connector on one end (which mates to the iSBC 561 board right angle SMC connector) and a BNC connector on the other end (which mates to the IBM cable assembly connector).

SPECIFICATIONS

Operational Characteristics

Back-end processor— Intel 8086-2/5 MHz
— 20-bit address path; 8/16 bit data path

Front-end processor— Signetics 8X305/8 MHz
— 16-bit instruction path; 8-bit data path

Serial Transfer Rate— 2.3587 Mbits/second (max. bit rate)
— 360K bits/second (approx. aggregate throughput)

Serial Transfer Rate— Binary dipulse (with 12-bit serial stream)

Memory Capacity — All iSBC 561 controller board memory is available to on-board firmware only.

Common memory — 16K Bytes of Shared Buffer memory (SRAM @ 0 wait state access)

8086-2 memory — 16K Bytes of EPROM;
— 16K Bytes of SRAM

8X305 memory — 4K Bytes of Instruction memory (EPROM)
— 2K Bytes of Control memory (EPROM)

Physical Characteristics

Width: 30.48 cm (12.00 in)
Height: 17.15 cm (6.75 in)
Depth: 1.78 cm (0.70 in)
Weight: 510 gm (18 oz)

Electrical Characteristics

DC Power Requirements:
Voltage—+5V
Current (Max)—6.28A
Current (Typ)—5.46A
Power Dissipation (Max)—35.5VA

ORDERING INFORMATION

Part Number	Description
iSBC 561	SOEMI (Serial OEM Interface) Controller board

Cable Characteristics

Impedance: coax connector—50 ohms (nominal)
external cable (user furnished)—95 ohms (nominal)

Capacitance: 35 pF/ft

Propagation: 1.6 ns/ft

Environmental Characteristics

Operating Temperature: 0° to 55°C at 200 LFM air velocity

Operating Humidity: 10 to 85% non-condensing (0° to 55°C)

Non-Operating Temperature: −40°C to 75°C

Shock: 30G for a duration of 11 ms with ½ sinewave shape.

Vibration: 0 to 55 Hz with 0.0 to 0.010 inches peak to peak excursion.

Reference Manuals

147048-001— iSBC 561 SOEMI (Serial OEM Interface) Controller Board Hardware Reference Manual (NOT SUPPLIED)

Reference manual may be ordered from any Intel sales representative, distributor office, or from Intel Literature Department, 3065 Bowers Avenue, Santa Clara, California 95051.

GA33-1585-0 (File No. S370-03—IBM Serial OEM Interface (SOEMI) Reference Manual (NOT SUPPLIED)

Reference manual may be ordered from IBM Advanced Technical Systems; Dept. 3291, 7030-16; Schoenaicherstr. 220; 7030 Boeblingen. Federal Republic of Germany.