1.1   INTRODUCTION

This manual supplies the information needed to assemble, test and use the Sol-PC Single Board Terminal Computer. We suggest that you first scan the entire manual before starting assembly. Then make sure you have all the parts and components listed in the "Parts List" (Table 3-1) in Section III. When assembling the module, follow the instructions in the order given.

Should you encounter any problem during assembly, call on us for help if necessary. If your completed module does not work properly, recheck your assembly step by step. Most problems stem from poor soldering, backward installed components, and/or installing the wrong component. Once you are satisfied that the module is correctly assembled, feel free to ask for our help.

1.2   GENERAL INFORMATION

1.2.1   Sol-PC Description

The Sol-PC is a single board microcomputer/terminal built around an 8080 microprocessor. Support circuitry permits full implementation of every 8080 function.

It features both parallel and serial communications interfaces, a keyboard interface, an audio cassette interface, a video display generator, 1024 8-bit words of system RAM (random access memory), 1024 8-bit words of display RAM, and a plug-in personality module with up to 2048 bytes of ROM (read only memory) stored program, and bus compatibility with all Processor Technology hardware and firmware products. Power requirements for the Sol-PC are +5 V dc ±5% at 2.5 A, +12 V dc ±5% at 150 mA and -12 V dc ±5% at 200 mA.

Parallel interfacing is eight bits each for input and output plus control handshaking signals, and the output bus is tristated TTL for bidirectional interfaces. The serial interface circuit includes both asynchronous RS-232 and 20 mA current loop provisions, 75 to 9600 baud (switch selectable).

Seven-level ASCII encoded, TTL keyboard interfacing requires a 2 to 10 usec strobe pulse after data is stable. The dual rate, 300 or 1200 bps (bits per second), audio cassette interface is program controlled and self clocking with phase-lock loop. It includes automatic level control in both the record and playback modes. Recording is CUTS/Byte standard compatible, asynchronously Manchester coded at 1200/2400 Hz or 600/1200 Hz.

The video display circuitry generates sixteen 64 character lines from data stored in an on-card 1024 8-bit word display RAM. Alphanumeric and control characters (the full 128 upper and lower case plus control ASCII character set) are displayed black on white