

## Ferranti Pegasus, Perseus and Sirius

### Delivery Lists and Applications

**Provenance** for the information in these lists is given after the list. We will be very grateful if readers spotting errors could notify corrections to Chris Burton, by email to the address disguised here as cpb#envex, demon, co, uk where # should be replaced by @, and comma by dot.

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## Ferranti Pegasus

<i>Serial no.</i>	<i>destination</i>	<i>date delivered.</i>	<i>applications</i>
<b>Pegasus 1.</b>			
1.	Ferranti Ltd. Computing Service, Portland Place, London. (This machine later went to Vickers).	March 56	general computing service
2.	Hawker Aircraft Ltd, Kingston-upon-Thames	Oct 56	aviation design calculations
3.	Admiralty Research Laboratory, Teddington	Feb 57	research work
4.	Sir W G Armstrong Whitworth Aircraft Ltd, Coventry	Nov 56	aviation design & analysis; payroll
5.	Royal Aircraft Establishment, Farnborough, Hants	May 57	
6.	Vickers-Armstrongs (Aircraft) Ltd, Weybridge; (later, to Museum of Science & Industry in Manchester)	May 57	aviation design calculations
7.	ICI Dyestuffs Division, Manchester – (first Pegasus1 with Hollerith punched cards)	Dec 57	research work; sales analysis; stock control
8.	NRDC, Northampton Polytechnic, London	June 57	research and training
9.	De Havilland Aircraft Co Ltd, Hatfield	Aug 57	research work; payroll; budgeting.
10.	British Thomson-Houston Co. Ltd. (AEI), Rugby	Aug 57	turbine design; costing
11.	British Iron & Steel Research Association, London	Nov 57	operational research work
12.	Leeds University	Oct 57	research & service work; University registration work
13.	Durham University	Oct 57	research & service work; University registration work
14.	Southampton University	March 58	Research & service work
15.	Babcock & Wilcox Ltd, London	Jan 58	research work; stock control; management accounting
16.	The United Steel Companies Ltd, Sheffield	Jan 58	operational research work
17.	Blackburn Aircraft Ltd, Brough, Yorkshire	March 58	research work; production control investigations
18.	Svenska Flygmotor AB, Trollhatten, Sweden	June 58	research work; production control
19.	MOS, Military Survey, Feltham, Middlesex	Aug 59	survey calculations
20.	Stuttgart University, Germany	June 58	research & service work
21.	Ferranti Ltd, Hollinwood, Lancs	Aug 59	transformer & technical calcs.; production control; wages; service
22.	CA Parsons & Co Ltd, Newcastle	Jan 59	transformer design work
23.	The Steel Co of Wales Ltd, Port Talbot	Feb 60	operational research work
24.	Ferranti-Packard Electric Ltd, Toronto, Canada	Dec 59	transformer design work; service work.
25.	The College of Aeronautics, Cranfield, Bedfordshire	Sept 60	aircraft design calculations

26. Aircraft Armament Experimental Establishment, Boscombe Down, Wiltshire.	Jan 62	aircraft design calculations; data analysis.
<b>Pegasus 2.</b>		
27. Skandia Insurance Co., Stockholm, Sweden, (Then to Ferranti Ltd., West Gorton, Manchester; then to University College London. This machine is now operational in gallery 46 of the London Science Museum.	Dec. 59	originally: actuarial work; then computer design; then X-ray crystallography.
28. Ferranti Ltd, Newman Street, London.	Aug 60	general computing service work.
29. Bruce Peebles & Co Ltd, Edinburgh	Oct 60	transformer design; production control.
30. DSIR, Road Research Lab., Harmondsworth	Jan 61	research calculations; accident record analysis.
31. London & Manchester Ass Co Ltd, London. (This machine known as 'Pluto'; it had Powers punched card equipment)	Oct 60	branch insurance work; investment work.
32. Shell Refining Co Ltd, Stanlow, Cheshire	Feb 61	refinery technical work; payroll; stock control
33. Shell Research Ltd, Thornton, Cheshire	Feb 61	technical work
34. Vickers-Armstrongs (Aircraft) Ltd, Weybridge	June 61	aircraft design calculations
35. De Havilland Aircraft Co Ltd, Hatfield. (Originally: De Havilland Propellers Ltd., Stevenage)	Sept 61	aircraft design calculations
36. Martins Bank Ltd, Liverpool	April 61	current account book-keeping.
37. The Edinburgh Computers Ltd, Edinburgh. (Formerly the Scottish Widows Fund & Standard Life Assurance Co.)	April 62	pension scheme updating; branch valuations
38. Westminster Bank Ltd, London	Nov 61	
39. National Provincial Bank Ltd, London	May 62	current account book-keeping.
40. British Railways, Eastern Region	Oct 62	train timetabling

NOTES:

[SHL] The above information is chiefly extracted from:

B.B.Swann, *An informal history of the Ferranti computer department*. 1975. (Circulated privately, but see the National Archive for the History of Computing, catalogue number NAHC/FER/C30).

Additional information for the destinations of machines 1, 6 and 26 comes from:

S.H.Lavington, *The Pegasus Story: a history of a vintage British computer*. Published by the Science Museum, London, 2000. ISBN: 1-900747-40-5.

Additional information for the application of machine number 40 comes from John Deutsch, in an e-mail to Simon Lavington dated 5/8/2003.

## **Ferranti Perseus**

<b><i>Serial no.</i></b>	<b><i>destination</i></b>	<b><i>date delivered.</i></b>	<b><i>applications</i></b>
1	AB DataCentralen (a subsidiary of the Trygg and the Fylgia Insurance Companies), Midsommarkransen, Stockholm, Sweden.	Apr 59	Life insurance, motor insurance, property insurance.
2	South Africam Mutual Life Assurance Society, Capetown, South Africa.	Ca Dec 59	Life insurance

### NOTES:

[CPB] Personal knowledge of above as maintenance engineer on 1.

## **Ferranti Sirius**

<b><i>Serial no.</i></b>	<b><i>destination</i></b>	<b><i>date delivered.</i></b>	<b><i>applications</i></b>
1	Ferranti Ltd., Manchester		
2	Ferranti Ltd., Australia		
3	Ferranti Ltd., London		
4	Yarrow and Co. Ltd		
5	Ferranti Ltd., Australia		
6	Cement and Concrete Ltd.		
7	Steel Research Institute, Prague	Mar 1962	
8	British Railways, Midland Region		
9	Builders'-Copper Tube Ltd.,		
10	I.C.I., Australia and New Zealand Ltd.,	Pre-Jul 1962	Later moved to Monash University
11	Heriot Watt College, Edinburgh		
12	Battersea Technical College		
13	Royal College of Science and Technology, Glasgow		
14	Monash University, Australia	Jul/Aug 1962	
15	Davy and United Engineering Co. Ltd., Sheffield		
16	Trumpy-y-Sirvente, Madrid		

### NOTES:

[CPB] Items 1 to 16 derived from booklet "A Survey of the Capabilities and Facilities of the Computer Department of Ferranti Ltd", Engineering Publications Department, Ferranti, West Gorton, April 1963. Serial numbers have been assumed following the unsorted list in the booklet.

Further valuable information provided by Brian Parker.