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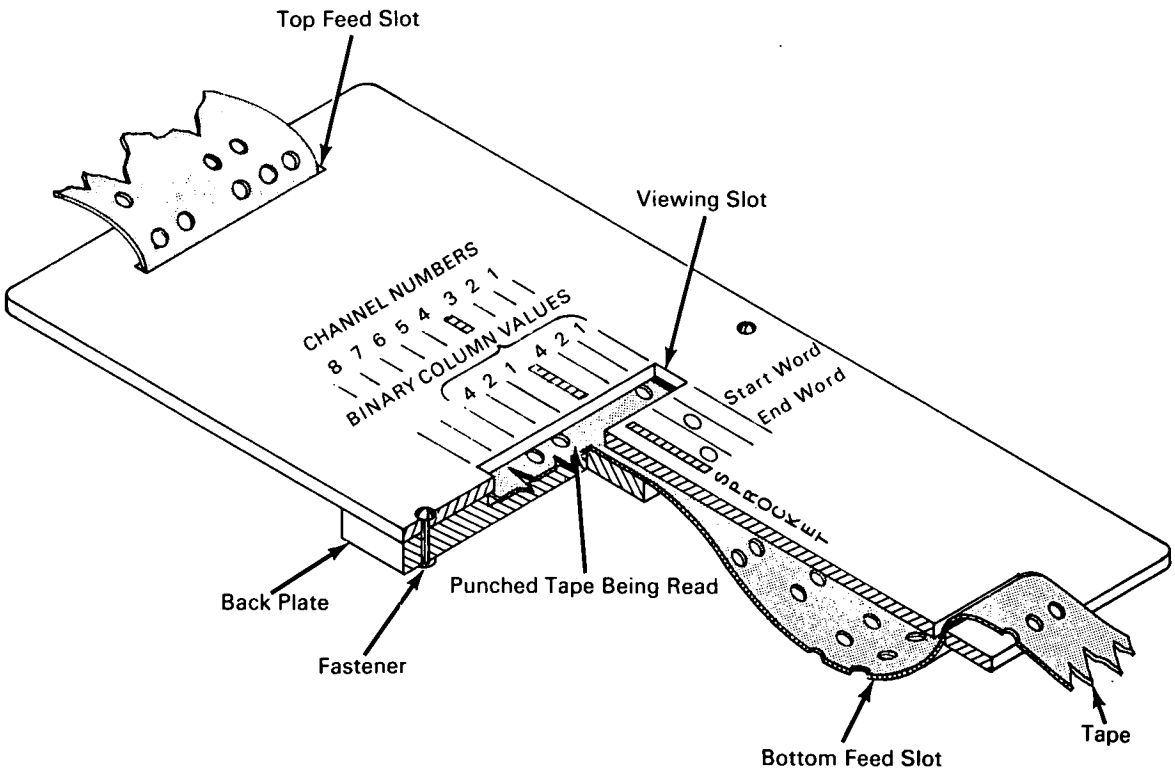
Brief 67-10361

NASA TECH BRIEF

Pocket-Size Manual Tape Reader Device Aids Computer Tape Checking



The problem:

Manually reading, interpreting, and correcting binary and octal coded punched tapes is extremely difficult due to the small size of the holes and their close proximity. Code information, such as channel numbers, binary values of each significant channel, sprocket channel, codes for the beginning and ending of words, etc., on the unmarked tape must be constantly kept in mind for correct reading and interpretation. When manually verifying a documented input with the punched tape, it is difficult to maintain line and hole position on the tape while the eyes and fingers are moving between the documented input and the tape.

The solution:

A pocket-size plastic manual tape reader device has been developed to isolate and display a line of coded information so that it may be easily read and verified.

How it's done:

The tape is fed into the bottom feed slot from front to back, slipped between the back plate and viewing slot, and then fed from the back plate through the top

(continued overleaf)

feed slot from back to front. After insertion, the tape is pulled through the device until the desired line of punched holes appears in the viewing slot. With this device any line of tape can easily be read and verified by positioning it in the viewing slot.

Notes:

1. The coded information is more easily read if the color of the back plate contrasts sharply with that of the tape.
2. Code information may be arranged to meet the needs of any program on a punched computer tape.
3. Inquiries concerning this invention may be directed to:

   Technology Utilization Officer
   Kennedy Space Center
   Kennedy Space Center, Florida 32899
   Reference: B67-10361

Patent status:

Inquiries about obtaining rights for the commercial use of this invention may be made to NASA, Code GP, Washington, D.C. 20546.

Source: Felix L. Odle
of The Boeing Company
under contract to
Kennedy Space Center
(KSC-10058)