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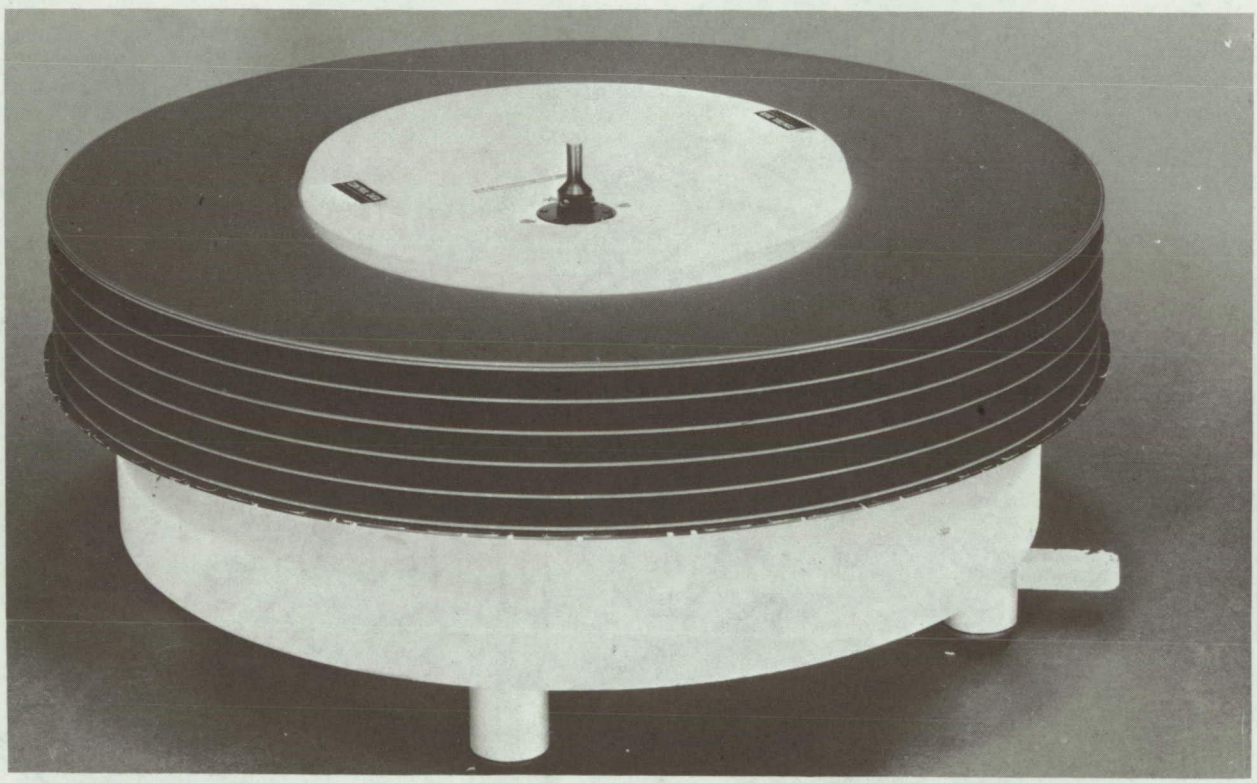
NASA TECH BRIEF

Disc Pack Cleaning Table Saves Computer Time



The disc pack holding table, shown in the figure, is a support frame upon which a computer disc pack may be loaded and the protective cover released. The joining of a disc pack support frame and cover release mechanism into a single off-line maintenance support unit is both time-saving and useful, permitting manual off-line cleaning of the disc pack storage units. This combination will eliminate the current practice of employing an on-line disc drive unit to hold the disc pack during cleaning, and should interest designers and manufacturers of computer accessories.

The disc pack cleaner has a portable base with a rotating cone to hold the disc pack for cleaning. A spring loaded pin is activated by a thumb lever which releases the plastic dust cover. The cover is held in place by spring loaded balls, permitting removal for cleaning the disc pack. The advantage of this arrangement is that disc packs can be cleaned at any time

(continued overleaf)

without shutting down the computer. Prior methods required the customer engineer to power-off the disc drive in order to clean the pack; scheduling of the computer for cleaning was nearly impossible to maintain. With this new device, disc packs can be cleaned on a definite schedule, and no extra equipment is required.

Note:

No additional documentation is available. Specific questions, however, may be directed to:

Technology Utilization Officer
Langley Research Center
Hampton, Virginia 23365
Reference: B70-10532

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: J. T. Guy, Sr.
Langley Research Center
(LAR-10590)