and by the end of the 1980s minicomputers of what-
quickly defined a new and distinct class of computers, 
success of products like the Altair 8800 and Apple II 
thetic of their long-successful product lines. The 
companies such as DEC tried to maintain the aes-
still referred to as minicomputers, and products from 
appear in the trade press to describe these machines 
able power. New categories such as "supermini" ap-
weighing hundreds of pounds and drawing consid-
computers soon seemed less "mini", with some 
As market demands for computing power grew, mini-
user through a teleprinter or video terminal; later, the 
sells for a fraction of the price of a mainframe (often 
for a single user or small group of users, it is physically 
terms has been applied in retrospect to a computer 
the DEC PDP-1 and the CDC 160A, were intro-
are considered to be minicomputers, and products from 
the era of the miniskirt and