

10-1982 [C-7376] Applied Concepts - **Destiny Laser Chess (prototype)**

De firma Applied Concepts, lanceerde in 1981 de nieuwe naam Destiny. Blijkbaar vonden ze het hoog tijd om hun modellenreeks van een merknaam te voorzien. Een van de eerste producten was **Destiny Prodigy**. Eind 1982 werd **Destiny Laser Chess** middels een prachtige brochure gepresenteerd. Net zoals de **Boris Grandmaster** kwam dit uitzonderlijke model nooit op de markt. Ook nu is het weer gissen waarom de **Destiny Laser Chess** geen succes werd. Zoals we uit de schaarse literatuur kunnen vernemen, had dit model technische overeenkomsten met de **Novag Savant**. De beruchte geschiedenis van de **Savant (Savant II en Savant Royale)** kennen we. Alle modellen vertoonden al snel een defect aan de touch-sensitive LCD-display. Was dit soms ook het geval bij de **Destiny Laser Chess**? We zullen het nooit weten. Het zou fantastisch zijn als er (net zoals dat bij de **Boris Handroid** ooit gebeurde) opeens ergens een prototype (operational or not) op zou duiken. Laten we het hopen!!



Destiny Laser Chess

Heralding a new era of artificial intelligence games is the Destiny Laser, Applied Concepts' latest innovation to the chess marketplace. Utilizing technology previously reserved for industries like aerospace or biomedical, the Destiny Laser is the ultimate in portable electronic chess computers. Tiny light beams scan the surface of each square of the LCD chessboard, instantly responding as you touch the squares indicating your move. And, the graphic chess pieces, uniquely individual, provide instant recognition of the layout of the board. The Destiny Laser has nine levels of play, so as to excite the most skillful chess player or tutor the novice. A multitude of features, all standard in AD's advanced chess programs, highlight the Laser's repertoire of moves and challenging play. Portability is a ready alternative with optional nicad rechargeable batteries. The Destiny Laser – a chess innovation today; a standard for tomorrow.

(Applied Concepts, Inc. 1982 - copyright © 2014 by historian Hein Veldhuis)

In een advertentie van Applied Concepts las ik het volgende ...

Aerospace technology comes to computer chess. New Laser Chess is high powered, portable, and touch-sensitive LCD. As a giant step into the future. Applied Concepts, Inc./Destiny, introduces Laser Chess, laser activated, portable, liquid crystal display machine. Moves are entered by touching the square from which you wish the piece to move (thus interrupting a laser beam) and touching the square to which you are moving. Pieces are moved automatically. Laser Chess responds by moving its own pieces. At the time of this writing Laser Chess has not been fitted with a program, but I.C.D. should now be able to more clearly define its strength. Of course, our tollfree line is open for your questions. Additional Laser Chess features include: expected strong portable chess playing ability, thinks on the opponent's time, ease of input unparalleled on the market, incorporated opening book library, will play black from the bottom of the board, restores up to 6 moves, and much more. Destiny Laser Chess is the latest innovation in the chess marketplace...

Source: I.C.D. News Release, Special Edition 1982.

Tim Harding, The New Chess Computer Book (1985): Destiny Laser Chess ...

1983-launch machine from Destiny (Applied Concepts) with touch-sensitive LCD board probably similar to that used first in Novag Savant. This computer has not been seen by me by the time of writing.

Enige grote verzamelaars schreven mij ooit het volgende ...

Karsten Bauermeister (19.12.2001): Der Laser Chess ist mir bekannt, Ein Destiny mit LCD-Anzeige, Dürfte jedoch nie in Serie gebaut worden sein.

Steve Blincoe: (13.12.2005): When the topic is Prototype computers or Modified computers or even computers not released for sale to the general public i know very little as i have no desire to collect these computers however it is very interesting to see the information of course. For this i have several advertising pieces. Also never released for sale. It was Destiny Laser Chess. ACI had already changed the name to Destiny. More information: USCF magazine Dec 1982 pg. 29.

Advertisement from Palmer, McBride Kincaid Associates (October 1982) ...

PMK Associates in conjunction with Applied Concepts is pleased to announce the new Laser Chess (Patent Pending) portable chess computer. Although compact enough to be truly portable (7½ x 7½ x 1¼), this handsome unit incorporates all the features and playing strength of the new Steinitz program plus a unique move entering system. Move simply by touching the square your piece is on, and then touching the square you wish to move to. No pressure is required. A grid of invisible light beams scans the surface of the Liquid Crystal Display chessboard and control panel, and activates your move when a beam is interrupted. There are no moving parts to wear out, no chess men to lose, and a level of play surpassed only by its big brother, the Steinitz Mega 4 GGM. Laser chess is priced at \$309.95, and We offer the same half price accessory offer for this unit as described in our Prodigy ad (see Special Bonus on Rechargeable Battery System and Deluxe Carrying Case).

Literaturhinweise / References / Literatuuroverzicht

- 12-1982, USCF magazine Dec 1982, p. 29. [Not in my possession.]
- ??-1982, I.C.D. News Release (Institutional Computer Development), Special Edition 1982.
- ??-1983, Computer Chess Digest Annual 1983, Bob Sostack: Computers and Problems.
- 09-1985, Tim Harding, The New Chess Computer Book, p. 69.