A breakthrough in mouse technology

The Torrington Company's recent introduction of the world's first cordless mouse marks a major design innovation for IBM personal computers and compatibles. This unique mouse relies on infrared technology to transmit data to the host computer, improving on the same basic principle used in TV or VCR remote controls. There is no more need to deal with tangled cables or the cord drag that can cause unwanted cursor movement.

Cordless Operation
Manager Mouse Cordless works efficiently by transmitting infrared signals to a small receiver that mounts with Velcro on monitor, CPU or other convenient surface. The receiver delivers data to the computer via the RS 232 serial port. Operating up to 10 hours on a single battery charge, the mouse comes with its own power supply for overnight charging.

Unique Suspension System
Manager Mouse Cordless uses the same patented independent suspension system that has already brought a wide acceptance to the rest of Torrington's Manager Mouse™ line. This means:
- No track ball
- No maintenance
- No grid pad or tablet

Torrington's tough urethane wheels actually push debris out of the way as they track mouse motion. The patented suspension keeps the mouse tracking smoothly on virtually any surface, at any angle.

For a Manager Mouse dealer near you, call:
800-654-5449 (800-225-7219 in CT)
or 203-482-9511, Telex 962 494

Suggested retail price with KeyFree $229.

TORRINGTON
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The Infrared Mouse That Cuts the Cable

HANDS ON
BY WINN L. ROSCH

With the Manager Mouse Cordless from The Torrington Co., free-form editing and drawing win new freedom. This mouse operates without restrictive wires or a special mousepad.

Resembling most mice in color, size, and shape, the gray-beige rectangular Cordless has three large, bar-shaped push buttons and is equally comfortable under the right or left hand.

Two green eyes (infrared LED transmitters) and internal batteries substitute for the traditional taillike connecting cable. A silver mouthlike jack allows plugging in a battery charger if current gets low—an overnight charge can last for days—but the mouse signals always travel optically.

Like Torrington's earlier Manager Mouse, the Cordless uses two tiny plastic wheels set at right angles to each other, instead of an optical detector or trackball, to detect movement as fine as 1/1000 of an inch. Torrington claims the system is less prone to collecting dirt and needs less maintenance than other mice, and our testing tends to bear that out. It works quite well on ordinary, cluttered desktops, including those covered with dust and other particulate matter.

The mouse stares at a small receiver, about half its size, that has a big, red picture window on its front surface to receive the mouse's invisible glow. A tiny, red LED flickers in the upper-left part of this window when the mouse's transmissions are detected.

The receiver connects by cable to a serial port and a small black transformer. When needed, the charging cable for the mouse also plugs into the receiver so you can recharge as you work.

The light beam transmission scheme is amazingly accurate, and the freedom it affords is wonderful and quite sufficient to justify the product and its higher price. Its several-foot range is more than adequate if both the mouse and the receiver are kept on the same desktop.

Errors creep in at the edges of the coverage of the mouse's eyes. Rapidly rotating the Cordless breaks its infrared pulse train and results in the reception of erroneous instructions. Some form of error-checking or -correcting protocol in the mouse's transmissions would help prevent such inaccuracies.

The Cordless is code-equivalent to Mouse Systems Corp.'s PC Mouse, so the Cordless can run under that company's drivers. Torrington supplies its T-Mouse software driver, which provides Microsoft Mouse compatibility. Another program, KeyFree, which is available from Torrington for $59, adapts the Cordless to software, such as 1-2-3, R:base Series 5000, and MultiMate, not designed to use a mouse.