



March 2001

Topic:
CAD Market
Statistics

CAD/CAM User Market Statistics

Operating Systems, CAD seat numbers, hardware, PC brands and workstations in the Mechanical Engineering Sector

Each month **iCAD** will provide market intelligence from our database of nearly 20,000 UK CAD/CAM user sites. This month, we compare data gathered from the Mechanical Engineering sector between 1997 and 2000 on operating systems, number of CAD seats, hardware, PC brands and workstations.

[The UK CAD/CAM User Site Database](#) contains in-depth information for each record covering some 150 separate data items. The data is updated twice a year by our specialist IT researchers. The scope for analysis is huge, but here are a few facts, comparing data between 1997 and 2000. The base size taken for this analysis was in excess of 600 sites in the mechanical engineering sector for each year looked at.

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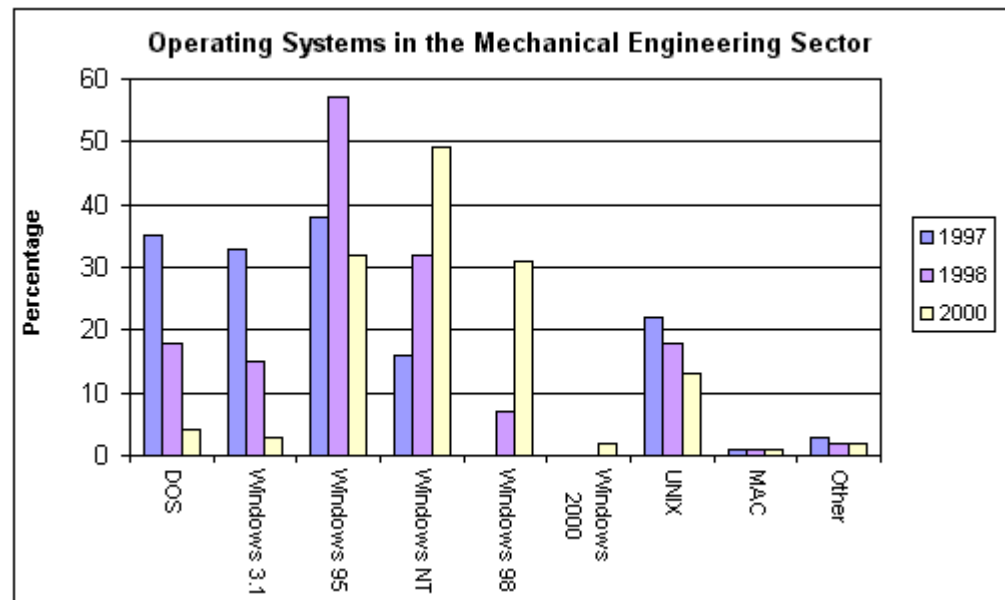
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Operating Systems

In 1997, Windows 95 was marginally the most common operating system (OS) in the sector, used by almost 40% of sites. DOS and Windows 3.1 were both installed in a third of companies. UNIX was the OS used by one in five Mechanical Engineering companies in 1997.

1998 saw the decline of DOS, Windows 3.1 and UNIX. Use of Windows NT almost doubled from the previous year, while Windows 95 extended its lead as the most commonly used operating system, installed in around 57% of Mechanical Engineering company sites.

By 2000, DOS and Windows 3.1 had almost disappeared, while nearly a third of the sites had taken up Windows 98. Windows NT continued its rise in popularity, operating in half of company sites.

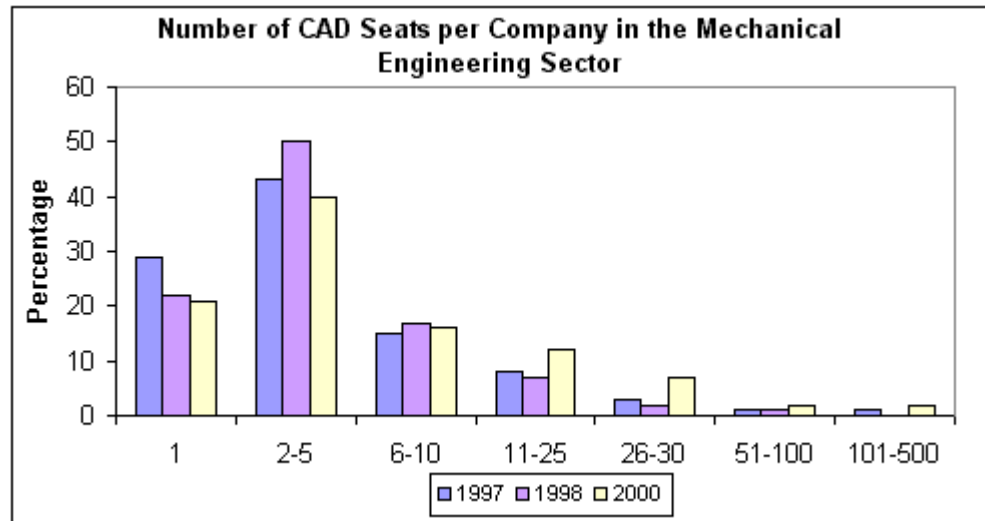




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Number of CAD/CAM seats

The most common number of CAD seats per site in the Mechanical Engineering sector is 2 to 5. In 1997, 43% of sites fell under this band, growing to 50% in 1998, and then falling to 40% in 2000. The proportion of sites with only one CAD seat dropped from 30% in 1997 to 21% in 2000.



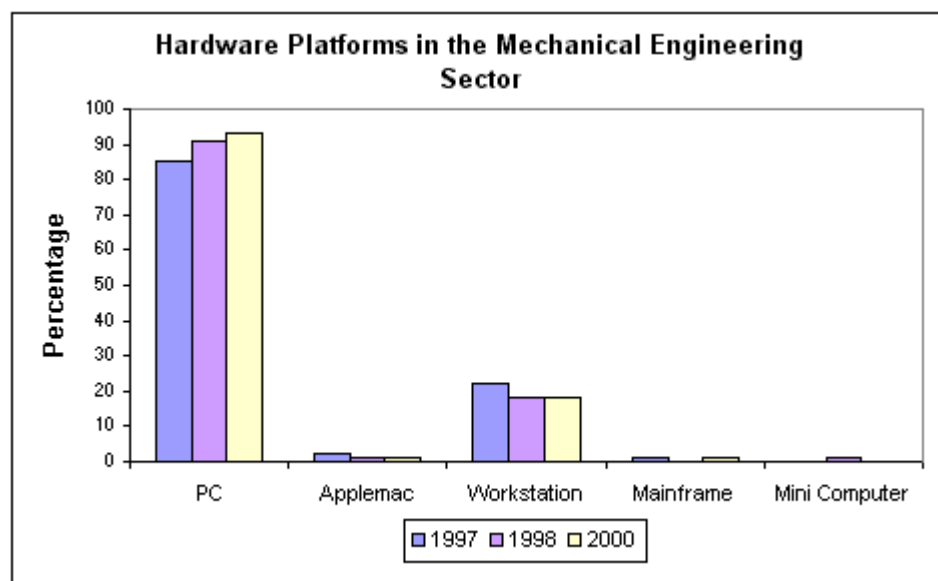


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Hardware Platform

The PCs' position as the predominant hardware is confirmed by an increase in use from 85% of the sites in 1997, to 93% in 2000.

The use of workstations by around one in five sites remained fairly constant between 1997-2000. Other hardware platforms are (Mainframes, Apple Mac and Mini Computers) used by around 1% of mechanical engineering sites.



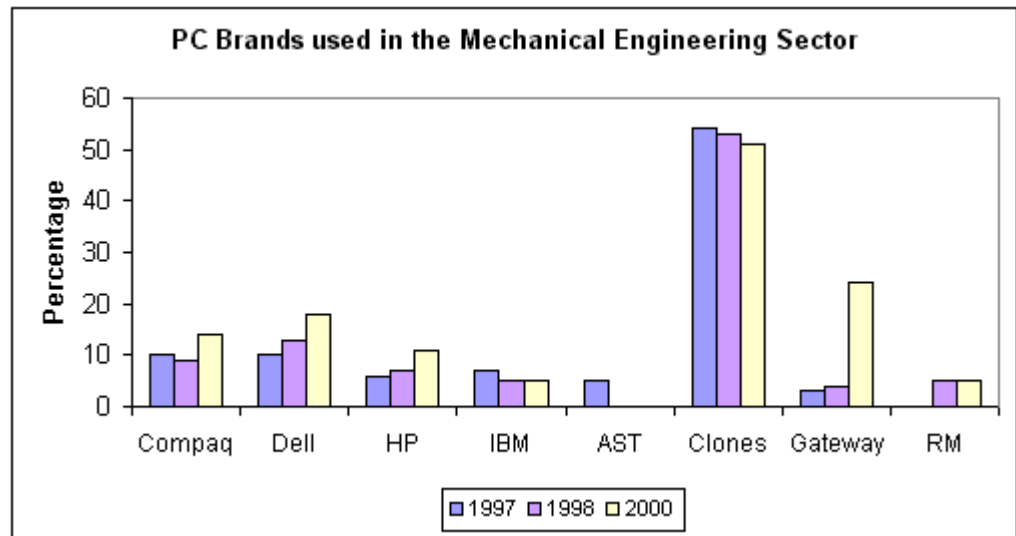


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PC Brands

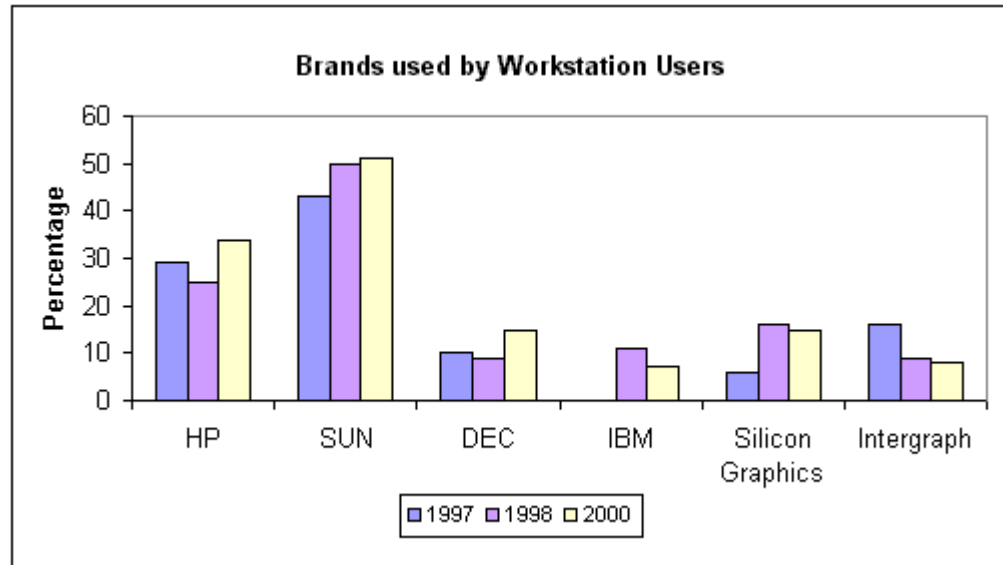
Between 1997 and 2000, Compaq, Dell, HP and Gateway all increased market share among mechanical engineering sites. Eight times more companies bought Gateway PCs in 2000 than they did in 1997.

However, 'clones' are the leading PC brand in the Mechanical Engineering sector, i.e. PC brands outside of the top twelve or so individually well known PC brands, that are each used by less than 1% of total sites.



Workstations

SUN dominates workstation sales to the Mechanical Engineering sector; half of workstation users had this brand installed in 2000. Hewlett Packard's workstations are installed in over a third of companies.



You can access [more information](#) about our database of 20,000 UK CAD/CAM using sites from the Business Advantage website, or by contacting David Eaton on +44 (0)1689 873636.

Please [Click HERE](#) to leave a comment or question.