List of probable deliveries of English Electric KDN2, KDF6 and KDF7 computers.

To date, only partial information has come to light about the 28 or more deliveries of this group of computers. Some sources are listed in the references below. Note that the computing interests of English Electric were merged with Leo Computers (in 1963), Marconi (in 1964), Elliott-Automation (in approximately 1966) and finally ICT to form ICL in 1968. During the consequential reorganizations in the mid-1960s the development of the KDN2 etc. may have been merged with that of the English Electric M2140 computer etc. Did some re-badging take place?

Six KDN2 installations in the steel industry and one at British Rail.
During the 1960s there were about six KDN2 computers installed in various steel plants which, from 1967 onwards, all became part of British Steel [ref. 1]. The applications included: (a) data-logging and control of steelmaking by the Basic Oxygen Steelmaking (BOS) process (deliveries 1 & 2 below); (b) chemical analysis from Quantovac output (delivery 3 below); (c) control of shears and rolling rate at slabbing and blooming mills (deliveries 4 & 5 below); control of saws on section mill (delivery 6 below).

1. Normanby Park, Scunthorpe   (formerly GKN Steel).
2. Ravenscraig, Scotland   (formerly Colvilles).
3. Sheffield,   (formerly ?)
4. Rotherham   (formerly Park Gate Iron & Steel Co.)
5. Rotherham   (formerly Park Gate Iron & Steel Co.)
6. Shelton, Stoke-on-Trent   (formerly ?)
7. British Rail, Western region [ref. 2].

KDF6 installations (about 15 total):
1. National and Grindlay's Bank, Computer Centre, Wilson Street, London. This was the first KDF6 to be delivered [ref. 3], being installed in December 1963. Probably switched off on 16th December 1974 [see ref. 3, which also gives information about KDF6 installations numbered 3 to 9 following].
2. KDF6 at Equitable Life Assurance Co., London. Installation date not known but likely to have been before 1967 [ref. 3]. Was still working in 1972, by which time "it was the only other remaining KDF6" [in London?] [ref. 3].
3. KDF6 at Commercial Union Insurance, London (see footnotes 1 & 2). Installation date not known but working between 1967 – 1971.
4. KDF6 at Provident Mutual Life Assurance Association (November 1964).
5. KDF6 at Baker Perkins, Peterborough
6. KDF6 at British Aircraft Company, Warton
7 & 8. Two KDF6s at English Electric, Huyton
9. KDF6 at the Borough of Harrow. (still there in 1967/68).
10, 11, Two KDF6s at British Steel works (Parkgate, Rotherham). [see

ref. 1].

12. KDF6 at H. C. Sleigh Ltd. (Golden Fleece petroleum distribution) in Queen Street, Melbourne, Australia. Installed in 1966 [see ref. 4].
13. Probably one KDF6 installed in New Zealand – See ref. 4].
14. Possibly one KDF6 computer installed towards the end of the 1960s at the Exeter Computer Centre of the Commercial Union Assurance Co. Ltd. [ref. 5].
15. Equitable Life has placed an order for an EELM KDF6 computer in February 1965, for installation in June 1966.

KDF7 installations (11 total).
4 KDF7s at British American Tobacco, Southampton. See ref. 6].
2 KDF7s at RAE, Farnborough. See ref. 6].
1 KDF7 controlling soaking pits at Ravenscraig steelworks. See [refs. 4 and 7].
4 KDF7s at Fawley Power Station, Southampton. See [ref. 8].

Sources for the above delivery information of English Electric KDN2, KDF6 and KDF7 computers.

1. Jonathan Aylen, *Megabytes for metals: development of computer applications in the iron and steel industry*, in The Journal Ironmaking and Steelmaking, vol. 31, no. 6, 2004, pages 465 – 478. This gives an account of the use of KDN2, KDF6 and KDF7 computers at various steel works.

2. BBC programme, summer 1962, *Machines like Men.* Introduced by Raymond Baxter. KDF2, costing £25K. At same time, Ferranti Sirius costs £35K and Ferranti Atlas £2.5 million ("equivalent to two Comet aircraft"). BR Western region had installed a KDF2.
https://m.facebook.com/BBCArchive/videos/1352585114901837/?refsrc=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.bing.com%2F&_rdr

3. Andrew Herbert, *The English Electric KDF 6*. Resurrection, 89, Spring 2020 pages 14 – 21. See:
https://www.computerconservationsociety.org/resurrection/res89.htm#d   This reference states that: "The first KDF 6 delivered was handed over to Grindlays on 30th December 1963". This article focusses on the KDF 6 at Grindlays. It also says that "each KDF6 cost about £60,000".

4. This site: https://bozmuse.wordpress.com/2014/01/18/english-electric-leo-kdf6/ contains informal anecdotes from various operators and programmers who worked on KDF6 computers in London, Australia and New Zealand.

5. See Computer Users' Year Book for 1969. VNU Business Publications, London.

6. The source of some of this KDF7 information is not known at the time of writing.

7. E-mails to Simon Lavington from Bill Jack, June 2021.

8. See: https://www.powerstations.uk/fawley-power-station-southampton/