

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA COMPUTER CENTER
Deadstart Systems Newsletter

26 August 1980

Vol. 6, No. 16

Send all comments, criticisms and contributions to the editor: T. W. Lanzatella
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NOTICE OF CHANGES TO THE SYSTEM

Kevin Matthews, the principal agent throughout the conversion to 16 word PFC, reinstalled eight local modsets along with about 2000 lines from CDC which comprise the 16 word PFC upgrade. Kevin also fixed an error in DSP which caused the SUBMISSION MID field on the banner page to appear as a number instead of the customary mnemonic. The number was the MID ordinal. Additionally, with the help of Paul Thompson, a U option was added to COPYCAT which guarantees that a user number is always present in the system sector of all direct access files. This feature will be used by the accounting group.

Tim Hoffmann corrected the locally added CPM function which returns removeable pack information to check the local-unload status before reading the MST. The IMPORT package was enhanced slightly so that a date will be included in the initial heading printed at the station. A serious error in LHS (EXPORT) wherein the EC field was being cleared for diverted files was fixed.

Bill Sackett repaired an error in CPUMTR which caused the EC (ECS usage) component of the SRU formula to be in error for NOFRILLS jobs. Bill also changed performance measurement code in LTA so that a rollout reason code is included during logoff processing.

Jeff Drummond changed RETAIN processing in PFILES to allow system error messages (like TRACK LIMIT) to be displayed at the terminal. Jeff also converted PFP to work on a 16-word PFC system.

Brad Blasing added code to SET to accomodate a LOWRATE IPRDECK entry. Brad also fixed a serious security problem in ACCFAM related to USER statement processing. The problem is very obscure however, and we doubt that it was ever used. Credit Jeff Woolsey with finding the bug. Additionally, an error in the QUEUE command which appeared shortly after that last system was installed was fixed.

Paul Thompson reinstalled five local modsets in preparation for the 16-word PFC upgrade.

Arnie Nelson added a new site (3P) to SUPPIO.

Kevin Fjelsted fixed UC processing in PURGALL so that UC=0 works.

PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE SYSTEM

The X Command - by Earl Schleske

UCC Professional Services (Dennis Lienke) would like MIL (Minnesota Instructional Language) installed on the Cyber 74 and 172. This could be accomplished if the program X could be added to the CALLPRG index.

The program X is used to call all the individual MIL packages.

Although there have been objections raised, there are two reasons why I would like the name X to be retained:

1. To make MIL consistent across all three machines.
(It is already named X on the Cyber 720-120).
2. To avoid documentation problems. There is a considerable amount of documentation already in circulation referring to this program as X.

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The Last Hurrah - by T. J. Hoffmann

The STAT command in Export returns Jobname, File Type, and queue priority (for queue files). However, it does not return the EC status of the file. For Experimental Engineering, which diverts to Lauderdale, diverting an EC=A9 file is no problem, but for West Bank, which diverts to a 4800 baud 1004, diverting an A9 file is a disaster. To remedy this, I propose to add the characters "AS" to the information returned by Export to indicate ascii files. Example:

```
20.55.00.  AEPA024  PR P6775  AS
20.55.00.  AEPA024  PR P6775
20.55.00.  JOBOADC  PR P6777  AS
```

In the above, the first and third print files are EC=A9, the second file is EC=A6 (or unspecified), and is what the output from STAT currently looks like.

SYSTEM MAINTENANCE: People and Procedures

Last Weeks Systems Group Meeting - by T. W. Lanzatella

The following proposals were discussed.

- 1) Steve Reisman's proposal to reinstate the COBOL, time-sharing subsystem using the COBOL5 compiler was approved.
- 2) Don Mears suggestion to install an UNPURGE command which would search through permanent file holes and restore a specified file was rejected. Most people felt that the undeterministic behavior would be hard to document. Others felt that a better tact would be to somehow guarantee access to purged permanent files for, say, a week.
- 3) Marisa Riviere's proposal to separate WRITEUP and CALLPRG was accepted but we all decided that the facility to retrieve tape-resident writeups should be removed.

Larry Liddiard and Don Mears led a discussion of the effects on response-time of Don's PP-saturation modset. Larry brought PMS graphs which pretty much confirmed the effects of the changes. Don's changes are described in DSN 6, 15 p. 143.

Larry distributed a draft copy of the recently evolved software pricing policy. He made the following points.

1. Establishing a pricing policy doesn't mean that everyone has to pay for software. We can still trade.
2. Maintenance of software which we sell will be offered at the rate of 15% of the purchase price per year.
3. When a successor version of a program is available a purchaser is entitled to the package for 10% of the initial fee or \$50 whichever is less.
4. In the case of a multi-mainframe installation, additional copies of a package are available for 25% of the initial fee.

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Callprg and Library Tape News - by M. Riviere

On August 22, B. Sackett introduced a future version of BASIC on Callprg. This version of BASIC, CDC level 519, includes local modifications for permanent file manipulation. The new BASIC compiler uses the SYMPL library, SYMLIB. For the time being, SYMLIB is specially supplied for the BASIC compiler. On August 31, SYMLIB, as well as the SYMPL compiler (both level 509), will be included in the Library Tape on the three computers. This change will bring SYMPL on the Cyber 720 from level 485 to 509.

Also on August 22, I removed FTN4 from the System and I installed it as a CALLPRG product. The purpose of this change is to issue a warning message to FTN4 users about the new FTN4 default optimization value. This is a temporary modification that will be removed on August 31. On August 31, T. W. Lanzatella will be modifying the Callprg index in the Cyber 74/172 in order to introduce a future version of PLL.

Also for August 31, Earl Schleske may be introducing the control statement callable package X on the Cyber 74/172 Callprg index. The X utility is already available on the Cyber 720. Earl is presenting a proposal for X on the Cyber 74/172 in this DSN.

On the same date, S. Reisman will be installing the time sharing version of COBOL, COBOLTS, as a Callprg product on the three computers. COBOLTS will be identical on the three machines. New machine dependent versions of COBOLTS will be installed in the future.

Besides the four changes described above, the rest of the Callprg and Library Tape modifications will be the ones already mentioned in the August 12 DSN. That is FTN, MNF, TSF, and M77. The versions of MNF, TSF, and M77 that will become System products on August 31 are now available as future products. The libraries associated with these products will not be changed.

There are no modifications scheduled for September 2.

The next set of Callprg and Library Tape modifications will be taking place on September 16. Modifications for that date should be submitted no later than September 4, at noon.

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Cyber 74/172 Deadstart Dump Analysis from Friday, 8 August through Thursday, 21 August - by K. C. Matthews

Friday, 8 August

10:15

Level 3 - Cyber 74

The system hung when operators tried to purge on old print file entry. The print file FST entry was not good. This strange file had been around for a few days.

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Cyber 170-720 Deadstart Dump Analysis (8/11-8/24)- by R. A. Williams

<u>Date</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Tape</u>
800813	The system was taken down, with a warning, to allow Field Engineering and an expert from California to work on the PDP front-end DH-11 equipment.	N.A.

800814	Some work was being done to the mainframe to correct a freon flow problem. Presumably this caused the temperature alarm to go off which led to a system abort.	N.A.
800815	The system was taken down due to a flashing LDD abort message. This was a result of a filled error log which, in turn, was caused by an improper channel parity setting for the PDP front-end.	Fixed
800818	The system was taken down because LMT hung just after deadstart for unknown reasons.	N.A.
800823	A power failure caused the system to go down. The operators delayed in bringing it back up for fear it would crash again.	N.A.