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Send all comments, criticisms and contributions to the editor: T. W. Lanzatella
University Computer Center, 2520 Broadway Drive, Lauderdale, MN 55113
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NOTICE OF CHANGES TO THE SYSTEM

KRONOS Changes

The following changes will be installed on Thursday, 10 August.

Brian Hanson installed a new version of COPYMF, the multi-file tape copy utility. A bug which caused the utility to occasionally hang in recall was repaired. Termination messages in COPYMF were also cleaned up.

Tim Salo contributed changes to SUPPIO which allow the package to run with or without a DDP in the system.

Jeff Drummond altered PP program TLX to check the abort flag while waiting for an inactive terminal. This could repair some hung port situations. Jeff also repaired the ENQUIRE,JN=XXX option so that when XXX is less than three characters ENQUIRE searches for a match in the first 4+K characters of the job name where K is the number of characters comprising XXX. Previously, ENQUIRE searched for a job name comprised of 4+K characters.

NOS Changes

The following changes were installed on Sunday, 6 August.

Kevin Matthews installed a near final iteration to his user ECS mods. New features include a new KCL mnemonic MMF. This symbolic name takes the value TRUE if a LINK device is defined - a nearly exact indication that multi-mainframe is currently running. These changes also allow shared fast attach files. During the NOS test period on Sunday, 6 August we ran with shared tape library data base and shared user ECS. Kevin installed a new common deck COMSEFT which defines system symbols for the extended FNT.

Don Mears repaired an error in the format of the user number appearing on plot output.

Tim Salo installed the following changes:

- 1) Job card translation is no longer performed by SUPPIO. Program SUPPIO now calls VEJ which in turn calls OVJ.
- 2) The routines in SUPPIO which allocate buffers in ECS were rewritten.
- 3) Terminal ID is no longer used to determine terminal type.

Tim Hoffmann installed the following changes.

- 1) The locally installed COPYSBF option EP (Eject Page) was made to work correctly.
- 2) Program MAGMET was repaired to properly display most DSD ENABLE/DISABLE status correctly.
- 3) Tim installed his proposed option to COMCARG (see DSN 4, 14 p. 114).

Brian Hanson installed a small but notable change to COMPFAT which allows a fast attach file to reside on an auxiliary disk device. This change is crucial to our goals of having shared fast attach files.

Marisa Riviere installed the following changes to CALLPRG.

- 1) Marisa installed the proposed changes to CALLPRG processing of field length (see DSN 4, 14 p. 114).
- 2) CALLPRG was reorganized so that less than 220B words are required to perform an absolute overlay load.
- 3) Messages issued by WRITEUP when a writeup is not found were cleaned up.

Jeff Drummond installed the following changes.

- 1) Changes to TLX and ENQUIRE which are identical to those installed into KRONOS were installed into NOS.
- 2) Message limit was improved so that a job encountering message limit is given ten additional messages before termination.
- 3) RECOVER processing in TELEX was changed to search the SALVARE file for the user number specified on login and if unique to allow the user to recover without specifying terminal number. If the user number is not unique, the user must specify the terminal number. This change is a boon to timesharing users who do not remember their terminal numbers and increases the probability that s/he can recover after a system crash.
- 4) A mod from PSR summary 472 which repairs a timing problem in CPUMTR where both CPU's on a dual CPU machine could be assigned to the same control point.

- 5) A mod from PSR summary 475 which repairs a problem in processing of shared devices which also hold temporary files.
- 6) Program PFILES was altered so that error messages are entered into the system dayfile. This helps to provide more information when tracing jobs.
- 7) DSD was corrected to not unload a disk device with active users attached.
- 8) EXAMINE documentation was updated.

Brad Blasing finished converting an important local option to PFLOAD (the CG option) which facilitates disk reloading when several files have been placed on a PFDUMP tape.

Tom Lanzatella removed the unapproved and mistakenly installed abbreviation for COPYSBF, CSF.

PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE SYSTEM

MODVAL Proposal - by S. E. Collins and R. A. Williams

I propose the following changes to the MODVAL K-display input processing:

- 1) Remove the *D* directive.
- 2) Change the */* directive to update only. This will prevent the creation of mistyped user numbers.

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Another Notice/Notify Proposal - by S. E. Collins

I propose adding an OP=REPORT parameter to the notice control card. This option will cause NOTICE to print the information which will be available after Jeff Drummond's "SYSTEM SECURITY" proposal (78/07/11) is implemented. This information will include the date/time of the last Telex login and last user/account card, the number of Telex logins and user/account statements and the date of the last password change. (NOTE: This is in addition to its being printed at login time.)

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Proposed Change to Archive Procedure - by R. J. Hursh

It has been our practice to archive indirect access files from pack STF four times during the year. Indirect files on this pack not accessed for the past 90 days (at minimum) are dumped to tapes and purged on these dates.

To standardize C-172 and C-74 archive procedures, I would like to eliminate this practice. Unless some member of UCC has a serious objection, I would like to archive all files from STF on the first of each month if they have not been accessed in the preceding month. This policy would be effective with the September 1 archive.

SYSTEM MAINTENANCE: People and Procedures

LAST WEEK'S SYSTEMS GROUP MEETING - by T. W. Lanzatella

- 1) The following proposals were rejected or accepted.
 - a) Steve Collins' proposed changes to NOTICE/NOTIFY were approved (see DSN 4, 14 p. 111).
 - b) Bob Williams' proposed evolution of XMIT/SEND on KRONOS was discussed and accepted with one change (see DSN 4, 14 p. 111). Rather than install any of the ASEND schemes described, Tim Salo suggested that the old SEND be retained. This could be made to work in NOS with less work than could any ASEND mechanism.
 - c) Tim Hoffmann's proposed change to COMCARG was accepted (see DSN 4, 14 p.113).
 - d) Brian Hanson's and Marisa Riviere's proposed change to CALLPRG was approved.
 - e) Don Mears concise proposal to not log off timesharing users on SYET type errors was approved.
- 2) Larry Liddiard announced that KRONOS lives on the 6400 and will continue to live. We should continue to repair KRONOS bugs and install features which help operations and users.
- 3) Tom Lanzatella announced that staff should always use phone numbers 5910 and 5740 before 5930 due to the temporarily small number of ports on the CI72.
- 4) Larry announced that Tim Salo has completed an interesting study on PDP-11/34 throughput.

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Callprg and Library Tape News - by M. Riviere

On August 6, the KRONOS and NOS Callprg index were modified to include an entry for the future version of GENCORD. This version has corrected several minor bugs and an extension of the PRINTI option. A description of the modifications is announced by D. Hotchkiss in the UCC August Newsletter. Documentation about the future version of GENCORD is available through WRITEUP.

Also on August 6, the NOS library tape was modified to include modified versions of FORTRAN and SYSLIB. A small error was corrected in FORTRAN related with the DMOD routine that was replaced on last tape. This modification was requested by J. Mundstock.

SYSLIB was updated with the later versions of the common decks. The major modification on SYSLIB was the change of the relocatable version of COMCBKP with a new one that contains several new features. The BKP WRITEUP describes this new version. The duplicate entry CPM= that I erroneously introduced in the previous tape was removed.

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Callprg and Library Tape Products Related with the New Character Set - by M. Riviere

On August 20, besides starting to run the NOS system in the Cybers, we are also going to start running with the new character set and that affects several Library Tape and Callprg products. The current NOS index and Library Tape are already in permanent usage by now on the 172 and on the 74 for testing times. However, the August 20 Callprg index and Library Tape will be relatively different than the current ones. Whatever products have to be changed for the new character set will have to be changed at that time. It is not possible to make the change before because of the incompatibility of file conversion. Future and Fetch versions will become current and current versions will become Past or Fetch and everything will become quite confusing if we do not have a chance to test the whole setup ahead of time, at least to insure the availability of all the products. I would like to have all the modifications related with character set products by August 12 in order to test the new setup during the System's time.

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Cyber Deadstart Dump Analysis from Monday, 24 July, through Saturday, 5 August - by K. C. Matthews

Wednesday, 26 July Cyber 172

15:25 (DD-45)

The NOS system hung while we were attempting to correct a permanent file problem. It turned out that when a private pack with a user number was mounted on NOS, no normal direct access files could be created. The problem has been fixed.

Thursday, 27 July Cyber 74

07:55 (DD-6)

The display console went blank. A PPU which should have been idling was issuing a monitor function. Some things looked like the problem of last summer when PP programs appeared to be executing at the wrong address.

Friday, 28 July Both Systems

08:34 All machines down due to water pressure failure.

11:40 Water pressure again.

Cyber 172

21:28

A label error appeared on the 172 non-shared removable drive. The pack was O.K., since we could read it later on another drive. Anyway, a MAF was written on the drive. A deadstart was required because of permanent file activity problems that developed.

Sunday, July 30 Cyber 74

16:46 (DD-11)

The system hung up with most PPU's not doing much. The PPU library directory in core had been clobbered. No resolution.

Tuesday, August 1 Cyber 74

09:30 (DD-13)

A copy of IMT hung. We cannot determine what it was doing. This won't be pursued.

10:52 (DD-14)

Export hung.

13:28 (DD-15)

CPUMTR error exit occurred. No chance to analyze this dump.

Wednesday, August 2 Cyber 74

08:08

The plotter channel hung.

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6400 Deadstart Dump Analysis (7/24 - 8/6) - by R. A. Williams

There were several system aborts on July 28 due to water pressure problems.