

PROGRAMMING STAFF NOTE 58

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SUBJ: Proposed Change to CTSS Main Control,
Allowing Creation of a Class of Restricted Users

Although the user restriction code mechanism is used to deny users access to supervisor entries, any user who logs in may use most of the hundred-odd commands on the system. Uses of CTSS have been suggested in which it would be desirable to limit the number and kind of commands available to some users. For example, students in a programming course could be limited to the use of ED, MAD, FAP, and DELETE; non-technical users of an on-line information system might be limited to canned programs; or a public number restricted to RUNOFF might be made available for on-line documentation.

It turns out to be easy to add this facility, in a primitive form, to the current system. It is proposed that a bit be added to the user restriction codes, so that users with this bit may not issue disk-loaded commands except LOGOUT. Such a user could, then, use a command only if he had a link to it as a SAVED file, since the only really useful command he can issue is a RESUME-type.

The modification consists in inserting the following code in main control after the CAL 0,4 at location DSKCOM:

IAS	=HOTOLOG	see if this
TRA	*+2	must go through
TRA	DCM1	"
IAS	=HLOGOUT	"
TRA	*+2	"
TRA	DCM1	"
LDI	RCODE,1	check if user may
RFT	DSKBIT	issue disk-loaded
TRA	DCMER1	command
DCM1	SYN *	

In addition, references to RCODE must be checked to see if any assume that there are only 7 bits, and a suitable error message must be added.