

file - Multics memo

12/17/71

Saltzman

~~for Fredkin for
ARPA contribution
meeting~~

Following five years of development and two further years of combined development and use, the Multics system, a prototype computer utility, is serving the M.I.T. community as its primary interactive computer facility.

~~This community consists of about 1200 users, half students and half staff~~
 researchers, application system developers, and administrators. (Eight departments of the school of Engineering have recently ^{been} ~~committed themselves~~ to convert their administrative operations to Multics.) The system is sufficiently stable that it recently operated for five weeks without a failure attributable to software error. The two other sites operating Multics report similar experience. A new hardware base for Multics, adapted from the Honeywell 6080 computer system, will be installed at M.I.T. in the summer of 1972. One of the important features of this new hardware base, when combined with the software system of Multics, is that together they contain all the ingredients necessary to scale from one to ten processors and from 10^5 to 10^7 words of primary ("core") memory without hardware or software development.

the user numbers 700 students and 500 staff