

MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

PROJECT MAC

Reply to: Project MAC  
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January 10, 1974

Mr. Weston J. Burner  
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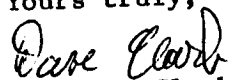
Dear Wes:

The purpose of this letter is to discuss two new services for which we have discovered the need on Multics.

Several weeks ago, I discussed with you how we might exploit our Terminet 1200 as a remote printer. In order to maximize the availability of the 1200, we would like to leave it logged in all day, but this would generate an excessive charge for connect time. Your proposal to avoid this charge was that we should provide you the Vadic modem which would be used on your end of the data line. If we were to provide this modem you would waive the connect charge. We believe at this point that this is an appropriate strategy to follow from our point of view. Therefore, if it is agreeable with you, we will arrange to obtain a Vadic modem and deliver it to you. If there are any further details about this arrangement which need to be worked out, please let me know.

The other service for which we have discovered a need is as follows. As part of our support of the ARPA Network, we would like to provide certain capabilities such as the ability of two users at different sites on the Network to establish inter-console communication. This sort of feature requires the availability of a process which is always ready to respond to certain messages from the Network. Once again, the limitation in our ability to provide this service is the connect time charge which we must pay in order to log this process in. (We do not wish to use the Network daemon as this process for several reasons, among which are the fact that the Network daemon is paid for by IPC, whereas this function should be funded by ARPA.) The difference between this process and the process required to run the remote printer is that in this case no terminal is involved. Both Tom VanVleck and Roger Roach have suggested that the proper way to obtain this process is to run it as a consoleless daemon. What I need to find out from you, then, is under what circumstances and at what rate we may obtain a consoleless daemon for this purpose. Please let me know if you would like further information on the nature of the service we are trying to provide with this process.

Yours truly,

  
David D. Clark

DDC/dec

xc: J. H. Saltzer