

file

INTERDEPARTMENTAL

MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY CAMBRIDGE, MASS. 02139

from the office of

December 28, 1971

To: C. T. Clingen
F. J. Corbató
R. C. Daley
J. W. Gintell

From: J. H. Saltzer

Subject: Copyright of listings

Before we begin microfiche distribution of Multics system listings, it is important that we add copyright notices to protect them. In discussion with M.I.T. lawyers, I am told that each separately compiled subprogram should have a notice of the form

"Copyright 1971, Massachusetts Institute of Technology"

at the top of the first page of program text. The extra protection provided by a circled c (©) is not sufficient to warrant drawing that character in by hand.

I propose that, starting as soon as possible, we add to the installation ritual a check for, and if missing the addition of, a PL/I comment containing this notice on the first line of every newly installed program. The check should be made before recompilation for listings, so that it will appear on the listings also. The date should always be changed to the current year if the program in question has been changed in any way during that year. It should be fairly easy to construct macros which make this check automatic.

A sample program with this comment at the beginning is attached.

print l.pl1

l.pl1 01/03/72 1137.7 est Mon

/* Copyright 1971, Massachusetts Institute of Technology. */

alpha: procedure(x);

declare x fixed binary;

x = x + 1;

return;

end alpha;

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