

To: Users on the CompSys Project
From: J. H. Saltzer
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Subject: "No Backup" disk storage

A new feature is now available on the M.I.T. Multics site: "No Backup" disk storage. Its name is misleading--files placed in "No Backup" storage are backed up less than usual, rather than not at all. Once a week (currently on Wednesday nights but subject to change) a complete copy is made onto tape, but incremental and consolidated backup copying is omitted. Thus this class of storage is appropriate for files which do not change over long time periods: libraries or archives of source programs or memos, and stable working tools. The project is charged for record quota rather than actual usage, but the price per record is one-fourth that of fully backed up storage. Thus, "no backup" storage is probably not cheaper for applications like the compiler/listing pool which require large amounts of storage for short periods.

The system makes this feature available by path name: all information stored below directory node ">nbdd" is treated as "no backup" storage. For the CompSys project, we have acquired a directory ">nbdd>CompSys" and placed in it one directory for every registered CompSys user. You are encouraged to move appropriate files from your regular directory into your "no backup" directory.

Observations:

1. If you place a link in your regular directory to the "no backup" directory, you can treat it as a subdirectory, although when using it as a working directory, relative pathnames such as "<" will refer to its actual hierarchy position.
2. Each "no backup" directory has been initialized with the access control list

```
sma  owner  
s    *.*.*
```

Requests for changes should be directed to D. Clark.

3. Before placing any files into your "no backup" directory it may be appropriate to check and adjust its "initial access control list", since that list will be placed on all newly created files.
4. After placing a permanent file in "no backup" storage, be careful to maintain your ability to recreate it until at least one Wednesday has passed. Two would be safer.
5. Currently, a quota of 4000 records is available as a single pool shared by all CompSys users. If this approach seems to be causing trouble, be sure to report it.