

To: Distribution

From: Peter, Grace, David, and Pattie

Date: August 26, 1975

Subject: System Maintenance Status, July 26 - Aug. 22

1. Significant Events

Adam and Maureen Yagodka attended our subgroup mini-meeting, and, in spite of all the computer jargon being thrown around, managed to make some meaningful observations about our group "process". The mini-meetings, plus the morning coffee meetings our group has, have helped make a better informed and better functioning systems assurance group.

The Billerica people, under terms of the buy-back agreement, have started using our Multics. This will have a noticeable effect as more people use limited resources of the machine, especially disk space.

There has been a big improvement in the quality of installation forms being submitted, which has resulted in a decrease in the amount of time it takes to get a change installed.

Grace, Dave, and Bob will be attending the upcoming HLSUA meeting in Phoenix. Maybe they can bring back enough of that good Arizona weather to last us the winter.

With Harvey Baumel's departure, Dave will tentatively assume the responsibility for Network interfacing, as soon as he figures out what that means.

The Priority Scheduler has been installed, but not yet turned on. We're working up the courage for that step.

A. Online System Installations

In the past four weeks, there were 24 installations, a significant drop since the last reporting period. This, combined with the improvement of the quality of submission forms, resulted in a much slower and easier to handle pace with very little backlog occurring. Among the installations were a new Graphics system, and a new Answering Service (8.1) which contained compatibility changes for RCP, the Priority Scheduler, and the Syserr Log Management packages.

Multics Project internal working documentation. Not to be reproduced or distributed outside the Multics Project.

This coming reporting period we're planning to install a new I/O Daemon which will be compatible with the AIM environment, and the long awaited TOLTS system for online T & D's.

B. Other Installations

Three hardcore systems were installed. These include: the Priority Scheduler (26.1); some bug fixes (26.2); and, phase II of MCS (26.3). BOS systems 1.45b and 1.46 were installed to support MCS. Salvager system 2.31 was installed which now brings the salvager up to date with MSS 26.2.

Hardcore system 26.4, which contains phase II of RCP, will be installed early in this next reporting period, thus completing the necessary hardcore changes for Honeywell's Multics release 3.0.

C. Crash Analysis

System failures were split about 50/50 hardware vs software, with the "Other" category showing strong in the last few days of the reporting period as some 4 crashes occurred with no obvious explanations. A very possible not-so-obvious explanation has been suggested that the humidity was very low that day and we all know that 6180's are susceptible to hay fever. That's why they're made in Arizona, isn't it? Noted was the fact that we still have a problem when shutting down with 2 CPU's configured. Two of the software crashes were due to problems in pxss which was fixed in system 26.2.

	07/26 08/01	08/02 08/08	08/09 08/15	08/16 08/22	Total
Hardware	0	3	3	0	6
Hardware Suspected	1	0	2	0	3
Software	1	0	0	0	1
Software Suspected	2	2	0	1	5
Not Yet Analyzed	0	0	1	0	1
Not Available	0	0	1	0	1
Other	1	0	0	4	5
-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Total	5	5	7	5	22

2. Problem Areas

As reported above, the quality of submission forms has improved this month resulting in faster installation handlings. The tape MPC problem reported last month, was fixed in the Firmware this month. The suggestion for a manual halt button on the back of our printer has been forwarded to the proper authorities. It turns out that numerous other Honeywell sites with this printer would like to see this change made.

Quota in >idd is becoming a problem as we continue to use up more and more space, as less and less space becomes available.

The copyright_archive and add_copyright bugs still haven't been picked up by anyone, but have been added to the bugs list.

3. Task Status

Grace has opened up the library_descriptor program again and is well on the way towards completing it. She's also looking into user notification of backup errors, and will take a look at the non-working test_tape program.

Peter has done some work on the library_cleanup command and plans to ave it finished by the beginning of Sept. He's also working on making the online and hardcore submission test handling less time consuming.

David has been MPRF handling. Sounds like that's all that happens to MPRF's, getting handled from one person to another. He's also starting to find out what it means to take over Harvey's Network responsibilities. Maybe by the next reporting period we'll all know what that means.

4. Work Planned

The I/O Daemon and TOLTS systems will be installed soon. We'll also try to determine if and how the Priority Scheduler works. Hopefully, our new disk MPC will arrive, making it possible to add more disk space. The final touches for Multics release 3.0 will be put in. The new KST strategy will be installed as 27.0. Grace will take 2 weeks of the next period to do some programming while Dave will do the hardcore installations during that period.

PROJECT Library Maintenance Tools Project AREA Installation tool enhancements

TASK DESCRIPTION	PERSONNEL	START	FINISH	P-M	CHANGES-SIAIUS
Honeywell PLM - AN80: Library Maintenance Manual	Kelley				continuing
library_cleanup: to replace cleanup using the library descriptor	Kelley	11/04/74	11/18/74		starting up again
upd_log_task: fix bug in locking strategy	Kelley	11/04/74	09/02/75		MCR approved - submitted
object_test: fix bug which deletes some ALM segments	Kelley				Awaiting MCR approval
recode object_test_ & upd_doc_task_ for changes to object_info.	Kelley	07/21/75	07/25/75		Submitted
modify updating tools to use different hardware for copying segments.	Kelley				Installed

PROJECT System and User Support AREA

TASK DESCRIPTION	PERSONNEL	START	FINISH	P-W	CHANGES-SIAIUS
Online Installations	Kelley Dratel	Continuing Task			
Maintain source lists	Roach	Continuing Task			
Maintain cross reference lists	Kelley (Dratel)	Continuing Task			New lists should be generated.
Maintain listings	Dratel	Continuing Task			
Crash Analysis	Ackerman-- Lewis (Jordan)	Continuing Task			
Hardcore Installations	Ackerman-- Lewis (Kelley)	Continuing Task			
Operator Interface	Jordan (All)	Continuing Task			
Maintain Hardcore Cross Reference	Jordan	Continuing Task			New lists should be generated.
Consulting	All	Continuing Task			

PROJECT Programming Support AREA

TASK DESCRIPTION	PERSONNEL	START	FINISH	P-W	CHANGES-SIAIUS
Maintain and improve library submission tests	Kelley	Continuing Task			
Convert cross reference to v2		4/15/73			
Upgrade all online installation tool exec_coms for the 6180 and install in the libraries and document them.	Kelley	3/25/73			ec's have been revised.
Look into compare_source_statement as replacement for cpa					Compare pl/1 source statements ignoring differences in comments and formatting
Design and implement an online system for registering modules being worked on, etc.					
Create a system for processing backup error files to allow notification to users of errors encountered	Ackerman-- Lewis	5/1/74	6/15/74 2/15/75		Installed. Work now being done to make it operational.
Make test_tape work again#	Ackerman-- Lewis				