

To: MTR Distribution

From: Multics Systems Assurance Group,
Grace Ackerman-Lewis, recorder

Date: October 19, 1976

Subject: Group Status for September/October

General News

Several personnel changes are happening in the group. George Morrison has begun to do the listing maintenance. He is a student, and has taken over this job from Nancy, who was thoroughly sick of it. Cynthia Anderson has joined the group as Peter's apprentice. She will be working with him learning online installations. Grace Ackerman-Lewis on the other hand, will be leaving somewhat reluctantly, to work for a small business mini-computer company. She hopes to get a feel for the running of a small business so that she can work for herself someday. Roger, a member emeritus, will be in Phoenix this week for the ALSUA conference. Other than that, it's been a fairly uneventful month.

Hardcore News

Gary has been doing hardcore installations which he prefers to call supervisor installations, much to our confusion. Systems 29.1, (with its fix systems a and b) and 29.2 and 29.2a have been installed during this period. Coming up in the near future (or the recent past, perhaps) is 29.3 with a new directory hashing algorithm and automatic mounting of hierarchy volumes.

Additionally, Gary will be taking over crash analysis from Grace. He is also doing the BOS systems.

Online News

Peter continues in online installations and will be teaching Cynthia the ropes. This past month, new PL/I and FORTRAN compilers went in. The RDMS libraries were created and the SMAGons have taken over maintenance of them. By the time this hits the stands, answering service 9.0 should be in. This provides the online support for hardcore system 30.0 in which the

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355 will be booted from Multics. Peter has picked up the metering and performance monitoring task that Grace was handling, and in addition is finishing, or has just finished the 1130 support work he is/was working on.

Cynthia will be learning online installations by submitting and installing some re-translated programs which were discovered to be missing from the tools listings. These segments will be recompiled with the compiler they were originally compiled with, and if they compile successfully will be reinstalled so that the listings will match the installed source and object. She is also still somewhat involved in maintaining the inventory data base and the MVS system data base. She will write a description of how to update these databases for whoever will be taking over their maintenance.

Crash Analysis

The recent crash record has been pretty good, averaging slightly less than 0.3 crashes per day. Of these crashes, most have been hardware related.

From To	09/20 09/26	09/27 10/03	10/04 10/10	10/11 10/17	Total
Hardware	1	1	2	0	4
Hardware?	0	0	0	0	0
Software	1	0	0	0	1
Software?	1	0	0	0	1
Shutdown	0	0	1	0	1
Unanalyzed	0	1	0	1	2
Total	3	2	3	1	9

PROJECT _____ Systems Assurance Subgroup _____ AREA _____ Continuing Tasks _____

TASK DESCRIPTION	PERSONNEL	START	FINISH	P-W	CHANGES-STATUS
Online Library Installations	Kelley	Continuing Task	10/20/76	150%	10 changes per week is our performance goal
Supervisor and BOS Library Installations	Dixon	Continuing Task	10/20/76	140%	1 system per week is our performance goal
Audit Supervisor Installations	Kelley	Continuing Task	10/20/76	3%	New Task to Insure Hardcore Library consistency
System Performance Monitoring	Kelley	Continuing Task	10/20/76	5%	1 or 2 tests per week
Provide Input to System Design Process	ALL	Continuing Task	10/20/76	5%	continue reading MTBs, attending Design Reviews
Monitor Documentation Status	ALL	Continuing Task	10/20/76	1%	auditing/installing ~240 new info segments
Maintain System Libraries	ALL	Continuing Task	10/20/76	1%	NOV Rush effort underway to Insure consistency of Hardcore Libraries
Maintain System Listings	Morrison	Continuing Task	10/20/76	25%	100 listings per week is our performance goal
Do Monthly, Weekly Maintenance - xrefs, maps, etc	Kelley	Continuing Task	10/20/76	1%	
Consulting	ALL	Continuing Task	10/20/76	1%	Serving as online_consultant

PROJECT Systems Assurance Subgroup AREA Interrupt-Driven Tasks

TASK DESCRIPTION	PERSONNEL	START	FINISH	P-W	CHANGES-STATUS
Crash Analysis	Dixon	As Needed	Needed	20%	10 crashes per week is maximum we can handle
Problem Investigation and Correction	ALL	As Needed	Needed	5%	10 to 20 problems occur per week
Provide Support for Operations	ALL	As Needed	Needed	2%	
Monitor Configuration Requirements	ALL	As Needed	Needed	1%	monitoring phone line and disk usage
Supervise Test Sessions on MIT Multics	ALL	As Needed	Needed	<1%	protect MIT hierarchy during test session
Maintain I/O Daemon	Kelley	As Needed	Needed	<1%	Little maintenance required now
Maintain Ring 1, Accounting Data Bases	ALL	As Needed	Needed	1%	Little maintenance required now
Enforce and Publicize Submission Standards	ALL	As Needed	Needed	<1%	Check with submitters about errors on installation forms

PROJECT _____ Systems Assurance Subgroup _____ AREA _____ Improvements _____

TASK DESCRIPTION	PERSONNEL	START	FINISH	P-M	CHANGES-STATUS
Improve Facilities and Strategies for Testing Software					no work underway due to lack of personpower
Install library_map and friends	Dixon			2 3	DONE. Code being audited
Maintain, Improve Library Submission Tests					Nothing underway due to lack of personpower
Change format of news.Info to support new help features	Kelley			.2 .2	deferred until time available
Upgrade Installation exec_coms, Install and document					deferred
Honeywell PLM - AN80: Library Maintenance Manual	ALL				deferred
Investigate compare_source_statement program to replace compare_asc11					Compare PL/I source statements, ignoring differences in comments, formatting
Modify updater to give access to libraries before Installation and remove afterwards					Low priority