

*Roach*

To: Distribution  
From: Pattie, Peter, Grace and David  
Date: July 28, 1975  
Subject: System Maintenance Status, June 14 - July 25

## 1. Significant Events

Although the author is not allowed to divulge the age of our group leader, she will announce that the passing of his birthday was considered one of the most significant events of the month. And though all others seem pale by comparison, there are a number that should be reported.

The first parts of the Multics Communication System and the Resource Control Package have been installed, along with their online tools. MCS modified the use of the DataNet 355 to make better use of it's communications capabilities. In addition, the 68/80-355 was generally cleaned up and much of the tty dim was rewritten. In addition to providing several functional improvements and extensions, MCS has also increased the efficiency of typewriter processing. Further changes will be made in the near future to provide many of the new capabilities to users. The first phase of RCP added the facilities for a great deal of control and flexibility concerning the use of peripherals, such as tapes. These facilities will not be functional until the second phase of RCP is installed.

We had a major crash, Friday the 25th, due to the explosion in the power plant. Multics was down for nine hours reminiscent of ye olde days.

We are proud to announce that while David took a week long sojourn in Maine, the group worked smoothly and efficiently, though we missed him terribly in our hearts.

### A. Online System Installations

Within the past six weeks the backlog of online installations has been conquered. Since June 14th there have been 67 installations. Some of the more significant changes installed include the AIM answering service, installed beautifully by Pattie as her first major installation, and put together perfectly by Paul Green---

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rarity!, the installation of another PL/1 compiler, the addition of the resource commands for RCP, and the MCS tools. Other minor fixes were installed including the moving of bound\_tape\_ansi\_ from iml to sss and the replacement of page tracing functions.

Since Pattie is depending less on CISL to change their errors we will very likely remain up to date in the online installation department permanently.

## B. Other Installations

Four major hardcore systems (25.7, 25.8, 25.9, 26.0) and eight fix systems (25.7a, 25.8a, 25.9a-d, .26.0a-b) have been installed within the last six weeks. The major hardcore changes include the first parts of the new Resource Control Package (RCP) and the Multics Communication System (MCS). In addition, many minor changes and bug fixes were installed. These include the fast reloader, changes to the syserr log mechanism, and the fixing of several bugs in page control.

BOS 1.44, 1.45, and 1.45a have also been installed to support the new communications system.

At this point Grace is so swamped by hardcore installations and CISL deadlines, she has little time for much else, eating her lunch included. As this holds true for our group as a whole, we hope this time crunch will not continue much longer.

## C. Crash Analysis

Despite several major software changes, system failures have remained at a reasonable level. Many of the crashes were hardware in nature, with various memory and processor parity errors accounting for the largest share.

	06/14	06/21	06/28	07/05	07/12	07/19	Total
	06/20	06/27	07/04	07/11	07/18	07/25	
Hardware	2	1	2	4	1	0	10
Hardware Suspected	0	0	1	0	0	1	2
Software	0	0	4	0	1	1	6
Software Suspected	1	2	0	0	0	0	3
Not Yet Analyzed	0	0	0	2	2	1	5
Not Available	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0	1	0	1	2
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Total	3	3	7	7	4	4	28

## 2. Problem Areas

The quality of submission forms from CISL is still a major problem. Most CISL people are adding days onto the installation of their changes through errors on their forms, with the exception of John Gintell, Tom Van Vleck, and Steven Herbst.

The major problem within our group is the installation pressure we are under from Honeywell, as stated above. We have no time for problem solving, learning, or thinking. It has become very frustrating to think that we will be doing installations for 35 hours a week, as we have been, for the remainder of the year. Due to the great number of installations being done daily, we have a quota problem. We are currently using 30,000 records instead of the usual 20,000 in ldd. If the pace of installations continues at the present rate we will require more space.

We are still waiting for a resolution of the tape MPC problem which was brought out by the new version of IOI, installed in MSS 25.6. It would also be well received if the `copyright_archive` command was fixed to work on segments greater than 64k. Problems have arisen with the `add_copyright` command too, since it does not work with several of the new source types installed recently.

We continue to have a problem with the printer due to the lack of a manual halt button on the back panel. No progress has been made in finding a solution.

## 3. Task Status

Besides pending installations very little progress has been made on other tasks. Grace is working on user notification of backup errors and hopes to be fixing the bug in `test_tape` which has made it useless except for reading. David will now be handling the routing and verification of MPRF's instead of Roger.

## 4. Work Planned for the Coming Month

The installation of MCS II and RCP II are upcoming along with the priority scheduler. In the online area a new answering service will be installed shortly which will contain a number of tools for MCS II, RCP II, AIM, and the priority scheduler. After a momentous visit by Chris Tavares, straight from that high security military complex in Washington, D.C. with unclassified listings that might be Top Secret, we have solved all the problems concerning the new graphics system. It should be installed some time this week. In addition, `bound_tools` will be available to the Multics community shortly.

Peter intends to working on making the online submission tests less time consuming and frustrating.



PROJECT Library Maintenance Tools Project AREA Installation tool enhancements

TASK DESCRIPTION	PERSONNEL	START	FINISH	P-W	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 - production testing
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		Awaiting Installation
modify updating tools to use different hardware for copying segments.	Kelley				Installed

PROJECT System and User Support AREA \_\_\_\_\_

TASK DESCRIPTION	PERSONNEL	SIARI	FINISH	P-W	CHANGES-STATUS
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	! Kelley	! 4/15/73			
! Upgrade all online installation ! tool exec_coms for the 6180 and ! install in the libraries and ! document them.	! Kelley	! 3/26/73			! ec's have been revised.
! Look into compare_source_statement ! as replacement for cpa					! Compare pl/i 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 ! 5/1/74	! 6/15/74 ! 2/15/75		! Installed. Work now ! being done to make it ! operational.

