

HONEYWELL INTEROFFICE CORRESPONDENCE

cc. J. H. Saltzer

LB

DATE: OCTOBER 5, 1973

TO: J. F. COULEUR

FROM: C. T. CLINGEN

DIVISION: CISL/PCO

CC: RF Montee
GK Vercauteren
LI Wilkinson

RECEIVED
OCT 9 1973
J. H. SALTZER

SUBJECT: SUPPORT FOR MULTICS MPM AND SPS PREPARATION


The attached correspondence documents a serious Multics documentation problem: currently there are no plans to pick up the Multics Programmers' Manual (MPM) and System Programmers' Supplement (SPS) editing and typing efforts now provided by MIT and Karolyn Martin.

As Professor Saltzer points out, the method now used to produce MPM and SPS updates is not primarily intended to provide special MIT advance documentation (although it presently serves that function also). Instead it is designed to permit us to cope with the problem of documenting a system undergoing major enhancements by using a few people to continuously upgrade the documentation.

I recommend the following solution to the problem. Augment CISL staff by one programmer/writer and one non-exempt technical typist. Transfer the responsibility of typing, proofing and editing the MPM and SPS updates from MIT and Software Documentation (currently employing one programmer/writer and two technical typists) to CISL. Software Documentation would retain responsibility for using MPM and SPS updates to produce final Product documentation and would retain the responsibility for producing all other Multics documentation such as Processor Manuals, Operations Manuals, Language Manuals, Administrative Manuals, User Guides, etc.

I feel that this proposal solves several problems. It reduces the load on the Software Documentation group by providing them with virtually finished copy for inclusion into the Product MPM. It allows us to provide software maintenance documentation in the form of the SPS; currently there seems to be no workable plan for doing maintenance documentation for Multics. It continues a well-tested method for local preparation and programmer assistance in generating required documentation with a minimum of cost and delay.

Karolyn Martin, who is currently doing MPM editing, will be leaving in about eight weeks, so training for a replacement is becoming critical. I urge rapid action on this recommendation before the situation gets out of control. RFP No. 56582 (John Andrews replacement) could be reactivated to provide a slot for the exempt person.


C. T. Clingen, MANAGER -
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Attachments: Professor's Saltzer's letter to C.T. Clingen, 10/2/73
G.K. Vercauteren's letter to Professor Saltzer - 9/28/73
Professor Saltzer's letter to G.K. Vercauteren - 9/5/73