

MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY
PROJECT MAC

Reply to: Project MAC
545 Technology Square
Cambridge, Mass. 02139

January 26, 1970

Telephone: (617) 864-6900 x6201

To: All Project MAC Participants
From: M. M. Jones
Subject: Increasing Project MAC's Use of Multics

Since October 1, 1969, when Multics service became publicly available at M.I.T. the reliability, performance, and functional capability of Multics have all increased substantially. Multics now is approaching the service level people have come to expect from computer services at M.I.T. So, if you haven't already done so, now is the time to transfer your work to Multics. Indeed the following paragraphs will show why you are strongly encouraged to use Multics.

As part of the contractual negotiations with General Electric Company and the Information Processing Center (IPC), Project MAC agreed to purchase \$400,000 worth of Multics time during the calendar year 1970. Since this is a substantial income guarantee for Multics, IPC has in turn agreed to provide Project MAC with a bulk discount price which can be applied to all MAC users who come under this block purchase.* An additional part of the negotiations provided that the Computer Systems Research Group, headed by Professor Corbató, would receive 50,000 console hours of Multics time at no charge to support continued Multics development.

We need to substantially increase the rate of usage at Multics to approach the average spending rate of \$33,333/month (\$400,000/12). The total usage of Multics

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The government auditors, wishing to guarantee that the public gets fair value for money spent, requires that we actually use \$400,000 worth of service -- not just pay that amount to IPC.

services by Project MAC (excluding the Computer Systems Research Group) for the months of October, November and December 1969, amounted to only \$11,874 or \$3,958 per month. Thus, usage must go up by a factor of more than 8.

To assist in increasing the use of Multics, all present CTSS users are being encouraged to switch immediately from CTSS to Multics. Furthermore, no new requests for CTSS usage or 360/67 usage will be permitted by Project MAC unless there are extreme extenuating circumstances. It is planned that all of Project MAC's usage of CTSS (presently only \$12k/month) will terminate by June 30, 1970. This is only in accordance with IPC's stated policy of terminating CTSS service not later than December 31, 1970.

To assist you in becoming familiar with PL/1, the principal language on Multics,* a special course will be given in the next few weeks by the Computer Systems Research Group for all MAC participants. The exact time and schedule of the course will be announced in the near future.

The administrative steps necessary to get on Multics are simple.

1. Go to IPC Users Accounts Office, Room 39-519, and pick up a Multics registration form.
2. After filling it out, get your group supervisor to sign the form authorizing your use of Multics.
3. If you are requesting that new projects be established, come by my office, Room 805 Tech Square, and see me so I can fill out a requisition to authorize expenditure of funds.
4. Take the completed registration form and the requisition (if this is a new project,) back to the User Accounts Office (39-519).

*

FORTRAN, BASIC and BCPL are also available.

Normally your number will be installed within one day. If it's not, call the IPC User Accounts Office (X4118 or 4119) and prod them into action.

Multics, PL/1 and FORTRAN manuals are available from the MAC Document Room.

If you have any questions about using Multics, please call me (X6204) or Professor Corbató (X6002).

MMJ:em

DRAFT

*Joyce Corby would like
your opinion on this*

February 24, 1970

Miss Joyce Harman
545 Technology Square
Room 810
Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139

Dear Joyce:

Gene Br^eemmer called about letting a Russian visitor, Gene Smirnoff, browse around in the MAC document room. Since there was a question about the appropriateness of his reading some of the MAC memoranda, I would just like to indicate that it is perfectly all right for him to look at the memoranda by our group.

(I intend to respond shortly to your request to help overhaul the MAC documentation. Sorry about the delay.)

Sincerely,

F. J. Corbató
Professor of Electrical Engineering

FJC/cpd