CERN COMPUTER NEWSLETTER
JULY-AUGUST NO 146 1979

1. GENERAL NEWS ITEMS ........................................... 2
   CHECKING PRE-LABELLING OF TAPES! ............................ 2
   INTRODUCTION OF FORTRAN VERSION 2.3 ......................... 2
   REPLACEMENT OF TIELINE AND REMOVAL OF THE USER PRINTER ON THE IBM .. 2
   THE IBM USER-AREA PRINTER REMOVED ON WEDNESDAY AUGUST 1ST. ........ 2
   CHIMP - TIELINE REPLACEMENT .................................. 3
   REMOVAL OF ANTIQUE AND REDUNDANT CDC PROCEDURES ............. 3
   PRINTING CDC ASCII FILES ON THE LASER PRINTER .............. 3
   PROBLEMS WITH BROKEN NEWBURY TERMINALS ..................... 4
   CLOSING DATE - NEXT NEWSLETTER .............................. 4

2. COMPUTER CENTRE PERFORMANCE .................................. 5
   CDC/IBM/CERNET TIMETABLES .................................... 5
   IBM SYSTEM ..................................................... 6
   CDC SYSTEM ................................................... 6
   CDC/IBM PERFORMANCE GRAPHS ................................. 7

3. WRITEUPS ....................................................... 8
   INDEX TO OLD COMPUTER NEWSLETTER ARTICLES .................. 10

4. IF YOU NEED HELP.............................................. 11

5. VOX POPULI ..................................................... 12
1. GENERAL NEWS ITEMS

1.1 CHECKING PRE-LABELLING OF TAPES!

Recently, some difficulties have been noticed when users try to check that their IBM tapes have been PRE-LABELLED and are ready for use.

The 'obvious' way used to check this was to use the TAPEDUMP EXEC file, BUT ...

TAPEDUMP refuses just to scan the VOL1/HDR1 and winds off to the end of the reel in an unsuccessful hunt for a user file. This causes confusion to the user (who gets no CIAO message) and requires operator intervention to unload the tape. Also the user would have to look past the collection of errors at the top of his listing to observe that his tape is, in fact, OK. Moral?

svp xxxxxxx EXEC FRO #LABELDMP PUB to check pre-labels xxxxx

(this will not fall off the end of the reel)

Charles Curran, PEO

1.2 INTRODUCTION OF FORTRAN VERSION 2.3

Version 2.3 of the FORTRAN H Extended compiler and Mod II subprogram library became the production version on Wednesday 25 July. This version was announced in Wylbur News no. 40 and Computer Newsletter 143. It does not require any changes to your FORTRAN programs and routines compiled with the old version can be used freely with routines compiled with the current one.

With the introduction of version 2.3 the default values which are used by FORTRAN for the DCB subparameters RECFM and BLKSIZE were changed. The new default values are RECFM=VBS and BLKSIZE=6000. These are the values which FORTRAN will use when creating new data sets unless you supply alternative values in the DD statement for the data set.

Program Enquiry Office

1.3 REPLACEMENT OF TIETLINE AND REMOVAL OF THE USER PRINTER ON THE IBM

1.3.1 THE IBM USER-AREA PRINTER REMOVED ON WEDNESDAY AUGUST 1ST.

Output sent to SYSOUT=U will be printed on the 3211 printer in the machine room.

To get output printed in the user area (on the CDC user printer) either

RUN DEST CDC
or LIST OFF DEST CDC

to get the output from an individual job printed, or

SET DEST CDC

to print output from all your jobs printed on the CDC user-area printer.
1.3.2 CHIMP - TIELINE REPLACEMENT

The TIELINE link between the IBM and the CDC has now been replaced by a program called CHIMP (CERNET High-speed Inter Mainframe Package) which runs in the IBM and uses the CERNET connection to the CDC. This program sits in the IBM all the time (if you enter the WYLBUR command LOC CHIMP you will see it) but is normally inactive. Every five minutes it wakes up and looks at the output queue for RMT4 and sends across to the CDC all the output files it finds there.

For the user the differences between TIELINE and CHIMP are:

1. ALL SYSOUT data sets of a job will be sent to the CDC if any one SYS-OUT class specifies the CDC. This includes data sets with SYSOUT classes A, S and U.

2. All output sent the CDC Central printers (DEST CDC) will be printed on the central user printer.

3. Only a CDC banner page will be printed.

Program Enquiry Office

1.4 REMOVAL OF ANTIQUE AND REDUNDANT CDC PROCEDURES

The following have been removed, as there are now better offerings on the IBM:

CDC MFA, MFB

WRITEUP, ID=PUBLIC (documentation) EXEC FROM WRITEUP PUB
XLABEL, ID=PUBLIC (label checking) EXEC FROM LABELDMP PUB
COPYT, ID=PUBLIC (copying tapes) EXEC FROM TAPECOPY PUB
XPUNCH, ID=PUBLIC (handling mixed-mode decks) EXEC FROM ALTER026 PUB
EBJOB, ID=PULIB (convert ebcDIC on 7600 → 12 bit ASCII) Use IBM and NWATOCDC

Charles Curran

1.5 PRINTING CDC ASCII FILES ON THE LASER PRINTER

CDC ASCII files are now printed on A4 white paper on the IBM laser printer using CERNET. At present three formats are available using the CDC (MFA and MFB) utilities LASERPRT and PEJOB. Format selection is made by the TID parameter as described below. Printing is automatic on the IBM. The Intercom procedures are:

for ASCII file lfn (e.g. SUE,BARB output)

ETL, 500
ATTACH, LASERPRT
LASERPRT, lfn, NAME=abcde, TID=xx

for BARB input file lfn

ETL, 500
ATTACH, PEJOB
PEJOB, lfn, NAME=abcde, TID=xx
The files will be printed on the laser printer with banner page ABCDE (1-5 characters) according to the formats below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TID</th>
<th>characters/line</th>
<th>lines/page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>95</td>
<td>123</td>
<td>88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>96</td>
<td>82</td>
<td>66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>97</td>
<td>99</td>
<td>66</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Ian McLaren, Charles Curran

1.6 PROBLEMS WITH BROKEN NEWBURY TERMINALS

Recently we have had a relatively large number of broken keys on our NEWBURY terminals.

We know these keys are not as mechanically solid as some other makes of terminal, but on the other hand it must be remembered that these terminals are of a much cheaper construction. It would help us all, users and service staff if you would bear in mind the above fact when using these terminals. It goes without saying that a heavy blow on the keys is NOT necessary to get a character transmitted, only a light touch is sufficient for the keyboard switches to make contact.

Terminal Maintenance Section

1.7 CLOSING DATE - NEXT NEWSLETTER

The closing date for the next Newsletter is 15 September. Articles already in machine readable form (on CDC or IBM, with a format in mind compatible with 80 chars/line, 10/inch) are far more welcome than those which have to be typed! The Computer Newsletter is produced monthly by the User Support Group in the Computer Centre, with Anders Berglund as Editor together with Chris Jones and Judith Richards as sub-Editors.

Distribution of the Newsletter

The Newsletter is distributed inside CERN to all registered users of the central computer systems, and to any person requesting a subscription from:

Computer Science Library
CERN
CH 1211 Geneve 23
2. COMPUTER CENTRE PERFORMANCE

2.1 CDC/IBM/CERNET TIMETABLES

- The so-called A machine providing at least a minimum of the WYLBUR service, the express and short job service will be normally scheduled to be available 100% of a 168 hour week.

- However the two machines being coupled by software and sharing many hardware devices in order to provide a homogenous user service means that it will be unavoidable from time to time to schedule periods when BOTH computers are unavailable, for example to introduce new systems simultaneously on both machines. We will try to coordinate such periods with the accelerator schedule in order to maximise availability to experiments which are data-taking but this will not always be possible. All such periods will be announced in advance via the WYLBUR news and the TV screens.

- The so-called B (or production) machine will continue to be bookable for development from 07.00 to 10.00 each weekday and from 20.00 to 24.00 on Wednesdays and Sundays. In practice it is extremely unlikely that all this time will be taken and users should consult the TV screens for daily details.

- Preventive maintenance can be taken on Saturday morning between 07.00 and 10.00. Normally one machine will be taken at a time but it is clear that with so much shared equipment this cannot be true always.

CERNET Schedule

During week days the period 7.30 to 8.30 is reserved for hardware modifications or dedicated hardware problems when required. Whenever these periods are taken then there will be no CERNET service for some or all users. Information will be put on the TV screen. The evening period 17.30 to 18.30 is reserved for software testing when required. In general this will not exclude a CERNET service. However, since it will be used for such purposes as to provoke infrequent errors or introduce test systems, there are likely to be rather more brief interruptions than normal. Either of the above development periods can normally be postponed in the case that a user indicates a particular requirement for service on a particular day.
2.2 IBM SYSTEM

The performance of both IBM systems during this period was much improved with fewer interruptions to the user services and only one very long down period. That particular incident occurred on Friday 13th when an MSS problem took both systems down for almost the whole day, although we were able to provide a WYLBUR editing service during the afternoon. Due to that incident the availability figures of 98.94% and 99.08% for the 'A' and 'B' services respectively do not look as good as they might have done.

There was also a big increase in the workload during this period with an average of 15555 jobs and 192.0 user cpu hours per week summed across both systems.

2.3 CDC SYSTEM

The combined 7600/6400 system performed extremely well in the first 5 weeks of the period. In fact, the 7600 itself broke its "CP hours to users" record 3 times, ending during the first week of July with an incredible figure of 149.52 hours!

Performance degraded then for 10 days due to the combination of tricky 6400 memory problems and CPU problems on the 7600. Then the situation stabilized again to a very reasonable level for the last 3 weeks where over 130 hours of 7600 CP time were delivered to users weekly.

Average total system MTBI for the 9 weeks period was 28.3 hours and availability was 96.3%. The 7600 ran an average of 12661 jobs per week with an average CP of 133.9 hours.

The MFB 6500 system behaved very well throughout the period with an availability of 98.75% and an MTBI of 71 hours.

John Ferguson

Key to Figures-

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Figure Type</th>
<th>Line Style</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Scheduled CPU time</td>
<td>solid line</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Achieved CPU time</td>
<td>............</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>User CPU time</td>
<td>...-.-.-.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unscheduled unavailable CPU time</td>
<td>dot/dash line</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jobs run</td>
<td>solid line</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tapes stage(7600)/mounted(370)</td>
<td>...-.-.-.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note that the IBM figures in the graphs have been adjusted to reflect the two machines in service (168 + 3032) as from the beginning of 1979, i.e. percentage of 1 week is really percentage of 1 week x 2 machines or 336 hours.
2.4 CDC/IBM PERFORMANCE GRAPHS

IBM CPU Usage

CDC CPU Usage

IBM Jobs/tapes

CDC Jobs/tapes
3. WRITEUPS

Below you will find a list of all user guides and writeups which are currently available. Those which have a DD/US number are available from the self-service of the Computer Science Library (Bldg. 513 - 1-024). All of them except those marked with an asterisk '***' are available under WYLBUR. Those marked with *** have been changed or are new since the last Newsletter. Login under WYLBUR, enter the command.

```
EXEC FROM #WRITEUP PUB
```

and then follow the prompts.

The US numbering series is a coordination effort of the US group, which aims to gather useful user-documentation in one series. It is in no way intended to steal credit from the true authors of the programs or documentation, who are frequently in groups other than US.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code or DD/US/n</th>
<th>Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5 AR</td>
<td>Program to archive CDC files on tape</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>36 ASP</td>
<td>Program to produce text slides on CDC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>56 ASSEMLR</td>
<td>Writing FORTRAN callable subprograms in IBM Assembler</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J401 BANNER</td>
<td>Printing block characters like those on the banner page (IBM)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>L220 BCPLCDC</td>
<td>BCPL long write-up L220, referring to CDC machines</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28 BCPLIBM</td>
<td>BCPL Language Programming Manual for the IBM machines</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BINLIB</td>
<td>Use of binary libraries on the IBM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17 CASTOR</td>
<td>Guide to a computer science bibliographic database (CDC)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 CDC</td>
<td>CDC 7600 User's Guide</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>33 CERNET</td>
<td>CERNET User's Guide</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*** CNL</td>
<td>How to obtain copies of old CNL (since no 131)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMPARE</td>
<td>Compare two text files, even of different length (IBM)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COPYR</td>
<td>Procedure to copy records from a tape or disk data set (IBM)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DEMON</td>
<td>Experimental interactive DEbugging MONitor (IBM)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25 DRI0</td>
<td>A direct access I/O package for use on IBM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23 EVENT</td>
<td>Reading data tapes written by standard HP or NORD10 system (CDC)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31 EXECFILE</td>
<td>Wylib EXEC File tutorial</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FETE</td>
<td>FORTRAN execution time estimator (a simple sort of SPY for IBM)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 FICHE</td>
<td>Program to produce microfiches from CDC or IBM output</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13 FLOP</td>
<td>Guide to the CDC FORTRAN parser, FLOP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FORTRAN</td>
<td>Comparison of CDC's FTN and IBM's FORTRAN H Extended</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 GD3CDC</td>
<td>Introduction to GD3 on the CDC 7600 and 6000's</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27 GD3IBM</td>
<td>Introduction to GD3 on the IBM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>***57 GRAPHICS</td>
<td>Overview of graphics software at CERN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Y250 HBOOK</td>
<td>Guide to the HBOOK histogramming package</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>34 HEPTI</td>
<td>High energy physics documentation retrieval system (CDC)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Y251 HPLOT</td>
<td>HPLOT graphics interface for HBOOK</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15 HPLOTA</td>
<td>Guide to the more advanced features of HPLOT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 HPLOTI</td>
<td>Guide to installation of HPLOT on various machines</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 IBM</td>
<td>The IBM User's Guide</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*** INDEX</td>
<td>The list you are now reading</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 INTCARD</td>
<td>Pocket-card for the CDC 6000 INTERCOM terminal system</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>43 INTMAN</td>
<td>INTERCOM User's Guide for CERN's CDC 6000 machines</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>37 I8080</td>
<td>INTEL 8080 cross assembler</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
45 IOPACK  I/O package recommended for processing experimental data (IBM)
30 JCLINTRO Introduction to IBM Job Control Language (for real beginners)
21 LABEL  A guide to tape label formats for CERN experimental users
  LASER  Guide to the IBM laser printer
11 LIBRARY  Guide to the contents of the CERN Program Library
  7 MACROS  Guide to the CDC 7600/6000 control card macro processor
  MESSAGE  Description of the WYLBUR Message-Mail facility
18 MORTAN  Guide to using MORTAN at CERN (IBM and CDC)
41 MSSUSER  Guide to the IBM 3850 Mass Storage System (MSS)
38 M6800  Guide to the Motorola M6800 cross assembler
26 NOSED  Guide to the alternative NOS editor on the CDC machines
19 PASCDC  Introduction to PASCAL on the CDC machines
47 PASCIBM  Reference manual for PASCAL 8000 (IBM version)
  PASSWORD  Dataset protection facilities using passwords on the IBM
35 PDHM  List of the Physics Data Handling Notes
12 PEJOB  Guide to the ASCII-printing utility PEJOB on the CDC
29 PROCLIB  Listing of SYS3.PROCLIB, the IBM procedure library
  9 PTAPE  Guide to paper-tape punching/reading on the CDC
  PULIB  Writeups for the IBM System Dependent Library CR.PUB.PULIB
  REDUCE  Program for algebraic calculation (IBM)
  REDINTRO  Introduction to REDUCE at CERN (IBM)
39 SFCARD  SCRIPT Reference Card (IBM)
55 SCRIPREF  SCRIPT Reference Manual (IBM)
53 SCRIPT  Introduction to the text formatting program SCRIPT (IBM)
  SERLAB  Routine to change DD parameters during execution
  SFort  Special debug version of the IBM FORTRAN compiler
10 SIGMAE  SIGMA tutorial (System for Interactive Graphical Analysis)
44 SIGMAM  SIGMA manual (System for Interactive Graphical Analysis)
42 SIGMAT  SIGMA summary card (System for Interactive Graphical Analysis)
  SIGN  Print big signs in upper and lower case characters (IBM)
  SPACEUSE  Description of dataset space administration and control (IBM)
28 STICKCDC  Guide to printing stickers/address labels on the CDC
48 STICKIBM  Guide to printing stickers/address labels on the IBM
14 SUE  Description of SUE (Single User Editor) under INTERCOM (CDC)
54 SYSPAPER  A set of commands for producing simple documents using SCRIPT
  SYSPUB  User manual for the SYSPUB interface to SCRIPT
  TAPECOPY  Copy labelled or unlabelled tapes
40 TAPGUIDE  Operational procedures for handling magnetic tapes
50 TERMINAL  Locations of all CERN public terminals
51 TRANSFER  Use of CERNET to transfer files from CDC to IBM and vice versa
52 UDBTX  Manual for IEBUPDTX, more powerful version of the IBM IEBUPDTE
  WYLPROCS  WYLBUR related procedures WLIBLIST, WUNPRESS, WPRESS
20 WYLBUR  WYLBUR reference manual
24 WYLUTOR  WYLBUR tutorial
Q210 ZBOOK  Dynamic Storage Allocation on CDC

Judith Richards
3.1 **INDEX TO OLD COMPUTER NEWSLETTER ARTICLES**

This selective index to articles which have appeared in old Newsletters is meant to be used as a back reference to material which is not covered elsewhere. Thus, an article on a subject which has since been documented elsewhere will NOT appear in this index. Back issues of the Newsletter can be obtained from the self-service area of the Computer Science Library, building 513, 1-024.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Authors</th>
<th>CNL</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Calcomp O/P on CDC (J522, CALPLOT)</td>
<td>F. Fabiani</td>
<td>126</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Calcomp O/P on IBM (J522, CALPLOT)</td>
<td>F. Fabiani</td>
<td>127</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SCEPTRE circuit analysis</td>
<td>M. Howie</td>
<td>115</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>How to Eke Out a Computer Budget (CDC)</td>
<td>M. Metcalf</td>
<td>130</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New FORTRAN &amp; post-mortem analyzer</td>
<td>W. Simon</td>
<td>143</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(MANTRAN) on the CDC 7600</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NO-DUMP (or ND) files on MFA</td>
<td>J. Richards</td>
<td>130</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PATCHY 4- Automatic conversion</td>
<td>H. Grote</td>
<td>124</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PLOT10 output on Calcomp plotters</td>
<td>H. Rafelski</td>
<td>134</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Programming Conventions</td>
<td>M. Metcalf</td>
<td>106/107/112</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Divisional and CUAC Representatives</td>
<td></td>
<td>140</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note that EXEC FROM #WRITEUP PUB, as described elsewhere, provides modernised and more accurate descriptions of many of the items previously indexed here. Other 'old' articles are now described in the 7600 User's Guide, the INTERCOM Pocket Card, and so on.

Charles Curran
4. IF YOU NEED HELP.....

Most requests for programing help are handled by the:

**PROGRAM ENQUIRY OFFICE**  
0830-1200  
1330-1700  
513/1-014 8-935 4952  
or 2377

Questions concerning the execution of jobs are answered by the

**COMMUNICATION OPERATOR**  
513/R 4927

Most special requests, for priority or WP files are handled by the

**COMPUTER COORDINATOR**  
Mike Metcalf 8-942

The following list may be useful for people with special requests

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PROGRAM LIBRARY</th>
<th>Help with library programs</th>
<th>Torbjorn Lindelof</th>
<th>513/1-017</th>
<th>4959</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Distributing library material</td>
<td>Dominique Dupraz</td>
<td>513/1-015</td>
<td>4951</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Gudrun Berger</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Algorithms/HYDRA programs</td>
<td>K. Gieselmann</td>
<td>27/2-020</td>
<td>4861</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DOCUMENTATION OFFICE</td>
<td>Felicitas Morice</td>
<td>513/1-011</td>
<td>2371</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MAGNETIC TAPES</td>
<td>Software</td>
<td>Judith Richards</td>
<td>513/1-005</td>
<td>4957</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Operations</td>
<td>J.C. Juvet</td>
<td>513/R-037</td>
<td>4935</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Allocation/Cleaning</td>
<td>Tape Reception</td>
<td>513/R</td>
<td>4939</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMPUTER SERVICE PROBLEMS</td>
<td>Operations - all aspects</td>
<td>John Ferguson</td>
<td>513/R-017</td>
<td>8-637</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>&quot; - CDC service</td>
<td>Jean-Claude Juvet</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
<td>8-364</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>&quot; - IBM service</td>
<td>Dave Underhill</td>
<td>513/R-035</td>
<td>4920</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Remote services</td>
<td>Martin Sheehan</td>
<td>513/R-034</td>
<td>3348</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>User Support</td>
<td>Chris Jones</td>
<td>513/1-007</td>
<td>8-947</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Software Systems</td>
<td>Tor Bloch</td>
<td>31/2-028</td>
<td>4949</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>RIOS's</td>
<td>Comm. Operator</td>
<td>513/R</td>
<td>4927</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Terminals</td>
<td>Comm. Operator</td>
<td>513/R</td>
<td>4927</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>CERNET</td>
<td>Mike Gerard</td>
<td>31/3-019</td>
<td>8-951</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Ian McLaren</td>
<td>513/1-009</td>
<td>5010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Fiche, Benson/Calcomp plotters</td>
<td>Jean-Claude Juvet</td>
<td>513/R-037</td>
<td>4935</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OTHER SERVICES</td>
<td>GD3 Graphics</td>
<td>Michael Howie</td>
<td>513/2-008</td>
<td>2993</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Computer Science Library</td>
<td>Felicitas Morice</td>
<td>513/1-011</td>
<td>2379</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Math Advisory Service</td>
<td>Benno Schorr</td>
<td>513/2-013</td>
<td>4120</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>INFDL Databases</td>
<td>Jean-Philippe Baud</td>
<td>513/2-005</td>
<td>3347</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Terminals Service</td>
<td>Carlo Vandoni</td>
<td>513/2-006</td>
<td>8-952</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>FELIX</td>
<td>Florence Ranjard</td>
<td>2/1-027</td>
<td>8-632</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>REGISTRATION</td>
<td>New Users</td>
<td>Div1. Rep- CNL 140</td>
<td>513/1-003</td>
<td>5029</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>INTERCOM Users</td>
<td>Judith Igo-Kemenes</td>
<td>513/1-002</td>
<td>4933</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
5. VOX POPULI

What is Vox Populi for?

All complaints, suggestions or problems sent in to the PEO on the form which is the last page of this Newsletter will be answered as quickly as possible (if not obscene or just a personal attack!) in these Vox Populi pages. Please note that your name will not be printed - only that of the person replying. You can send the form anonymously if you wish, but then you have to wait until the next Newsletter appears to receive an answer.

Program Enquiry Office

----------------------------------------

Having one's output listings, starting with the letter L say, filed in the racks marked A-C is a nuisance and until one gets used to it often causes unnecessary reruns. Unfortunately this seems to have become a problem of some importance, judging both from own experience and from complaints. Would it be possible to have those operators whose knowledge of the alphabet is not quite up to standards take a quick course or else be moved to some less sensitive position?

We agree that this is most irritating for the users and totally unnecessary. Of the two solutions that you propose the former (supplemented by random checks) is, we imagine, the simpler to implement. We are not competent to judge the effectiveness of the latter.

Martin Sheehan

******************************************************************************

While it is nice to have character sets including some of the national characters for the languages in use at CERN, I would suggest attention be paid to making an easily readable distinction between the letter O and zero 0. How about CERN using for zero - the same as on the majority of terminals? [But of course I know the opposite convention is in use for FORTRAN / Danish / Norwegian]

The demand for the 'national' character sets has been high, while only you have asked for a greater distinction between O and 0. The great clarity of the characters produced by the laser printer seems to make the distinction between zero and O easy. We have, however, added two character sets TERM and FORT with the zero=O (TERH) and 0=O (FORT). It should also be noted that in Danish and Norwegian 0 is not an O but an additional letter.

Anders Berglund

******************************************************************************

Why does the LENGTH function (standard FTN library) not work together with READ on RT=S files? It does work:
i) with BUFFER IN on RT=S files
ii) with READ on RT=W files
and READ itself on RT=S files works fine...

The LENGTH function is designed to work with BUFFER IN only, independent of record type. If you must know your record length please use BUFFER IN and LENGTH or XREAD and IXLONG.

Christiane Letertre

******************************************************************************
I have tried to run PATCHY to modify a routine in the CERN Library PAM-file. My deck had the flag IF=IBM, and was lying just after a deck with the same name, but with IF=CDC. After quite a lot of effort I found out (by help of PEO) that it is impossible to modify a deck lying after another deck with the same name. Why is your PAM-file organised like that?

The organisation of the CERN Program Library PAM file is admittedly a compromise solution since it is not possible under PATCHY to do what we really wanted. We decided to retain the naming convention that patch names are package names and deck names are subroutine names, with the consequence that (as you have seen) it is impossible in certain circumstances to access certain versions of certain subroutines without asking for the whole package. In order to allow this, we would have to invent more complicated deck names like UCOPYIBM, UCOPYCDCFTN, SUPRLAYCDC6000, etc.

Fred James

 Logged in on Newbury terminal editing a file with SUE after 1/2 hour of work, no response from INTERCOM, then 30 sec. later Gandalf box disconnect red light ON, I request connect on Gandalf box I get a line and try to log in message:

USER NAME AND PASSWORD IN USE AT ANOTHER TERMINAL

The problem you describe is most likely due to a hardware problem with INDEX. If it happens to you again, you should inform the communications operator and they will most likely be able to retrieve your session for you.

Hans Jornaandstad

This night (July 31st to August 1st) while happily typing a long program in the terminal room of the SB RIOS (basement) I have had the visit of two mice who were apparently feeling very much home. They seem to especially enjoy hiding in the mains cords feeding the terminals. A bite could be fatal to the mice ... and to the terminal.

I therefore suggest that something be done to transfer these animals to a less dangerous place.

The night visitors to basement of building 4 would no doubt regret that their presence is not appreciated in the terminal room. They had surely hoped to provide companionship to night-time terminal users.

As suggested, the appropriate service has been requested to arrange for the removal of the mice, as soon as possible.

If positive results are not forthcoming, I would be happy to provide two black kittens, at present inhabitants of our "chaufferie", unless of course, there are some terminal users who are allergic to cats.

Anil

*****************************************************************************
Please fill in the questionnaire and/or describe your problem, or write your
Then just fold the form and drop it into any mailbox.

To- Program Enquiry Office,
Building 513 (DD),
CERN.

VOX POPULI

---------------------------fold here---------------------------

To- Program Enquiry Office,
Building 513 (DD),
CERN.