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# The RSTS/E Benchmarks

## Part II

By Richard A. Marino, Data Processing Design, Inc.

In the last article I briefly defined benchmarking. Now we will look at one particular type of benchmarking — component benchmarking. This type of benchmarking compares a benchmark environment by measuring a single component. A component may be a program, a job stream, or even a single action. The purpose of a component benchmark is to measure differences in the benchmark environment and from this information determine characteristics of both the environment and the component.

Let's start with an example. One part of building a RSTS/E Version 7 system is the assembly of various files that are part of the monitor. One of these is the assembly of the file TTDVR.MAC (the terminal driver). The lines in the SYSGEN.CTL file which perform this task looks something like this:

```
R MACRO *TTDVR,TTDVR/C=COMMON,KERNEL,CONFIG,CHECK,KBDEF,TTDVR
```

This assembly requires no user interaction and is a good measure of the performance of a cpu and disk since the activity requires both extensive processing and plenty of i/o. For our test we have eliminated the listing part of the assembly and are using the command file in figure 1. If you want to duplicate this component benchmark use this command file and modify a CONFIG.MAC from any previous sysgen using the information in figure 2.

The purpose of this component benchmark is to evaluate the effect of cpu and disk combinations on this assembly. In order to provide the widest possible range of environments, we performed the assembly on both RT-11 and RSTS/E systems. This is very straight-forward since the assembly on RSTS occurs under the RT-11 run time system using a standard version of the RT-11 Macro assembler. The various environments are shown in figure 3. Since in all cases the environment was a single job environment, the amount of memory was not particularly relevant to this benchmark. Note, however, that while the amount of total physical memory does not impact this component benchmark significantly (a fact confirmed independently) this is not always the case, and one should be careful when benchmarking across operating systems.

The results are shown in figures 3 and 4. The elapsed times progressed about as one would expect given the differences in the environments. Some conclusions can be drawn concerning this particular component (the assembly of TTDVR.MAC):

1. An 11/23 with RX02's is faster than an 11/03 with RL01.
2. Using an RX02 in combination with an RL01 is not much better than just using the RX02.
3. An 11/44 is only slightly faster with RK07s than with an RL02.

4. An 11/70 with an RP06 is not much faster than an 11/44 with RK07.

What value are these conclusions? If you were planning for example to upgrade your system and a significant part of your system load were programmers doing assemblies, this type of benchmark might help you make your selection of new hardware. In this case you would certainly consider an 11/23 RL01 based system over an 11/34 RL01 system (less than 10% difference). Further you would probably choose the less expensive 11/44 RL02 system over the RK07, RM02, or 11/70 system.

This particular component benchmark was intentionally limited in its scope. You would need some further work to establish that a multi-user environment would perform the same.

Our second example of a component benchmark deals with much less hardware but a more complicated problem. The screen editing component of two of DPD's products, the WORD-11 word processing system (for documents) and the WAFE editor (for text files) are essentially the same. Each is a full-screen editor with keypad and keyboard functions. Each also is a complete editor not a pipeline editor (like TECO, or EDIT). This means that one can backup to the top of the file at any time. This one feature significantly complicates the editor since it must keep track of text it has passed and how to display it. The display format I should mention is changable throughout the document or text file by using 'rulers'.

Both of these products are available on a wide range of systems (since 1977 on RSTS/E for WORD-11). However the smallest hardware configuration has typically been an 11/34 with some 11/23's just now starting to be used. Written in a portable version of MACRO-11, the software itself is transportable, the question we needed to answer was what would the performance be on very small systems.

We converted the editor to run under RT-11 Version 4 and then set out to measure its performance on four very small benchmark environments:

1. 11/03, dual RX02
2. 11/23, dual RX02
3. 11/03, RL01 (equivalent)
4. 11/23, RL01 (equivalent)

In contrast to the example of the macro assembly, the editor is an interactive program and has many different features and operations. We decided to measure several typical operations:

1. Entering the Editor (Startup)
2. Display one screen (Move and display 7000 characters)
3. Move 10 pages (Move 35000 characters, display 7000)
4. Finish the Edit (Write the output file)



# RSTS users!

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## Software Techniques DISKIT

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Editor Dave Mallery  
reprinted from March 1981  
RSTS Professional magazine

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## A WORD ABOUT THE AUTHOR . . .

Rudy Bazelmans is a Software Analyst at Sykes Datatronics Inc. where he designs language processors and helps maintain a PDP-11/70. His address at Sykes is 375 Orchard Street, Rochester, New York 14606.

# ARE MACROS WORTH USING?

By Rudy Bazelmans, Sykes Datatronics Inc.

## ABSTRACT

Often programmers fail to utilize the tools which are available to increase productivity. One powerful tool for the programmer is macros. This paper discusses the advantages and disadvantages of using macros and addresses the question of whether to use a macro preprocessor or a macro assembler.

## Introduction

It is often necessary for programmers to repetitiously program particular sequences of code. Examples of these repeated sequences would be:

- Standard parameter passing and subroutine linkage.
- Stack and register manipulation.
- Test and branch sequences.
- I/O routines and their calls.
- Error checking and aborting.
- Multiple byte arithmetic operations.

Many of these items are particularly error prone and require a certain amount of thought each time the routine is copied. Macros can offer a solution to some of these problems because they possess the conciseness of assembly language along with the ease of use of a high level language.

Macro instructions are one line abbreviations for a group of instructions. The programmer initially defines the group of instructions which make up the macro. Then subsequent calls to this macro will be expanded in-line. Macro instructions look very similar to ordinary assembly language instructions. The parameters (or operands) passed on the macro call are used by the macro processor to customize each call.

Although macros have been used by programmers to simplify the programming of assembly language, they have also played an important part in the development of high level languages. SNOBOL for example, was initially implemented using macros. Fortran and PL/I have been revitalized thru the use of a structured macro package called Ratfor (RATional FORtran). Editors such as TECO (VTEDIT and EMACS) are incredibly powerful, this is partly due to their macro capability. Another area of computers which is heavily dependent on macros is system generation. On many Digital Equipment and Data General computers the system monitors are customized by having the user answer a number of questions and using these answers to include or exclude certain elements of the monitor.

## Purpose

The main purposes of using macros are:

1. As an organizational tool to aid in the layout and design of a program or system.
2. As an abbreviation mechanism to help simplify the coding and understanding of programs.
3. As an error checking tool to aid in writing bug free code.
4. To aid in the correction of errors and changing programs.

## Advantages of Using Macros

1. After a macro is developed, only one line of code is needed to perform a repetitive task. The time required to develop a macro is usually only as long as the time needed to program the sequence of code the first time and check it when it is used the second time.
2. Using macros reduces the number of bugs within a program because macros relieve the programmer of much of the housekeeping. A well designed macro will perform defaulting, error checking and local optimization. This reduces the amount of time which a programmer spends thinking about repetitive tasks.
  - A. When certain parameters are not specified in the macro call, the macro can use default values in the expansion. For example, if no output device is specified, the macro can assume the output device is the terminal and generate the appropriate code.
  - B. The macro can do error checking by flagging conflicting or missing parameters.
  - C. If desired, local optimization can be accomplished automatically. For example, jumps can be replaced with branches and adds replaced with increments.











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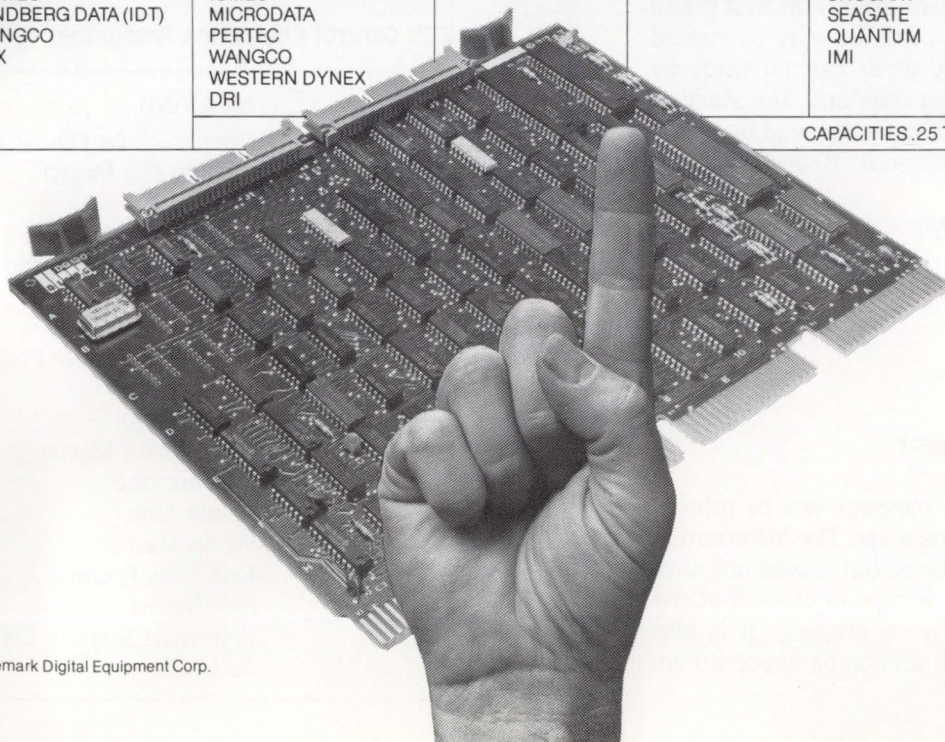
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# PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT SYSTEM

By David Whip, Maryland National Bank, Baltimore, Maryland

**PDS** is a set of teco macros designed to aid in the development of structured Basic+ and Basic+2 programs. Some of the features included are: "shorthand" entry of often used phrases "OPEN", "PRINT USING", etc.; automatic indentation of FOR-NEXT and WHILE-NEXT loops; user entered "shorthand" entry; file include for often needed code such as MAP or COMMONs; automatic line numbering; and automatic alignment of comments.

It is assumed in the following discussion that the user is familiar with teco at, at least, a novice level and understands pointer manipulation and search commands. PDS may be included automatically by renaming PDS.TEC to TECO.INI and entering teco as usual, or, after entering teco do EI PDS\$\$\$. The pointer position will not be changed by the EI command which may safely be used at any time. Several Q registers are used by PDS (see Table 1.) and should not be used for other purposes.

**TABLE 1. Q Registers Reserved by PDS**

NUMERIC
A,B,C,I,L,M,P,S,T
ALPHA
B,C,D,E,F,G,I,N,P,S,T,U,W

Once PDS has been loaded it is possible to change 4 preset values. The position at which comments will be aligned is kept in Q register C and is initialized to 50. This value may be changed by entering 30UC at which time newly entered comments would be aligned at column 30. The indentation constant is loaded in Q register I. This is the number of spaces which will indent each FOR-NEXT and WHILE-NEXT loop. The indentation feature may be turned off by entering OUI, or set to any other desired value by entering NUI where N is the desired constant. The starting line number is preset to 100 and may be changed by entering NUL; the line increment is initialized to 10 and is located in Q register M.

If desired the file include or keyboard entry macros may be invoked at this time.

To use the file include macro type MI\$\$

\*MI\$\$

File to include:

FOO.BAS

Loaded . . . Use CTRL B To Insert

If the file is found the above message will be printed otherwise there will be an error message. The information to be inserted may be on multiple lines, but should not have any leading line numbers, spaces, or tabs in order that the automatic indentation feature will work properly. It is also legal to use the tilde insert (see the section on keyboard entry macros).

The keyboard entry macro is called by entering ME\$\$

\*ME\$\$

Enter Macro (End With CTRL Z) :

For ~ = 1 to N% \

Print Date\$(1000% + ~) \

Next ~

!Z

\*

The tilde (~) is used as an escape character in the macro definitions. Its purpose is to allow the user to type in information and have the macro continue after the entry is made. In the above case when the macro is invoked <For > will be printed and the keyboard monitor will be called recursively. The user may type in as many characters as desired followed by <CTRL Z> which will cause < = 1 to N% \ <CR><LF> Print Date\$(1000% + > to be printed and characters will again be accepted from the keyboard. At any point the user may abort the macro by typing <esc>.

Either of the two macros may be used multiple times from the teco command level during a session, of course only the last macro entered or file read will be available to the user. Any indentation included in the macro must be implicitly typed into the macro since the indentation Q register is not updated during the macro invocation.

PDS is started or restarted by typing MS\$\$ from the teco command level. After entering the MS command you will be in the keyboard monitor loop. All characters typed at the keyboard are trapped and processed before being echoed at the terminal. Certain characters have special meaning to PDS as shown in Table 2.

**TABLE 2. Control Characters Recognized by PDS**

CHARACTER	MEANING
CTRL A	Open "~" As File ~
CTRL B	Include File Macro
CTRL C	As Usual
CTRL D	User Entered Macro
CTRL E	Auto Line Numbering
CTRL F	For Macro
CTRL L	List Program
CTRL I <TAB>	Indents To Proper Position (uses spaces)
CTRL N	Next Macro
CTRL P	Print Using Macro
CTRL R	Reprint Line
CTRL U	Delete Line
CTRL W	While Macro
CTRL Z	Exit Tilde Routine
<ESC>	Exit Macro
<!>	Comment Start In Col C%
<DEL>	As Usual















# SO YOUR DISK PACK IS IRREVOCABLY CORRUPT

By Mark Diebert, E.R. Squibb & Sons, Inc., East Brunswick, N.J.

```

10  EXTEND                                &
      ! This program supports extend mode  &
      !***** &
      !***** Neither the author of this program, nor the author's &
      !***** employer warrant that this program will perform any &
      !***** function whatsoever. Any person(s) using any form of &
      !***** this program upon any computer system or computer &
      !***** related devices do so at their own risk. &
      !***** &
      !***** This program is intended solely for the purpose of &
      !***** illustrating various data manipulation techniques as &
      !***** an adjunct to the DECUS Symposium workshop entitled: &
      !***** So Your "Disk Pack Is Irrevocably Corrupt". &
      !***** &
      !***** &
90  ON ERROR GOTO 19000                   &
      ! Set the standard error trap        &
      &
900  DIM Mfd.label$(7%),                  10000 OPEN Disk$ AS FILE 1% &
      Mfd.fdc$(3%,7%),Temp.aray$(7%),    \ GOSUB 11300 &
      Dir.field$(31%,7%)=2%              \ GET #1%,BLOCK 1% &
      ! Dim the in-core arrays for the MFD label entry, &
      ! MFD FDCM, temporary print array   \ Mfd.label$(1%)=SWAP%(CVT$(Dir.field$(0%,1%))) FOR I%=0% TO 7% &
      ! Dim the string array that will field the directory entries &
      &
1000 PRINT "The function of this program is to demonstrate "; &
      "simple RSTS/E directory handling." &
      \ PRINT "There are two read options available:" &
      \ GOSUB 11000 &
      \ PRINT &
      \ GOSUB 11100 &
      \ PRINT "Output to <KB:>:" &
      \ INPUT LINE Outfil$ &
      \ Outfil$=CVT$(Outfil$,38%) &
      \ Outfil$="KB:" UNLESS LEN(Outfil$) &
      \ OPEN Outfil$ AS FILE 12% &
      ! Print the header &
      ! GOSUB to print the various options &
      ! GOSUB to print the write instructions &
      ! Route the output &
      &
1010 INPUT "1-Read 2-Write a blockette 0-End";Code% &
      \ GOTO 32700 UNLESS Code% &
      \ Input "Which disk";Disk$ &
      \ GOSUB 10000 &
      \ ON Code% GOSUB 1050,3000 IF (Code%>0%) AND (Code%<3%) &
      \ GOTO 1010 &
      ! Get a macro option (read/write/end) &
      ! Get the disk name &
      ! GOSUB to set up the pack information &
      ! GOSUB to the proper routine if the option is in range &
      ! Get another option &
      &
1050 PRINT &
      \ INPUT "Read option";Task% &
      \ ON Task% GOSUB 1100,1200 &
      IF Task%>0% AND Task%<3% &
      \ RETURN UNLESS Task% &
      \ GOSUB 11000 IF Task%>2% OR Task%<0% &
      \ GOTO 1050 &
      ! Get a read option &
      ! GOSUB to the proper read routine if the option is in range &
      ! Return to macro option if no read option was entered &
      ! GOSUB to the help text if the read option was out of range &
      ! Get another read option &
      &
      &
      &
1100 INPUT "Enter link";Link.next% &
      \ GOSUB 11200 &
      \ PRINT "Link:";NUM1$(Link.next%);" UPD Cluster:"; &
      NUM1$(Clus.next%);" Block offset:";NUM1$(Block.next%); &
      " Entry offset:";NUM1$(Entry.next%) &
      \ PRINT &
      \ RETURN &
      ! Get the link to be parsed &
      ! GOSUB to break apart the link &
      ! Print the components of the link &
      ! Return &
      &
1200 Proceed%=0% &
      \ INPUT "DCN of blockette";Dcn.find% &
      \ PRINT "Block offset into DCN (0 to ";NUM1$(Pcs%-1%);")"; &
      \ INPUT Temp% &
      \ INPUT "Blockette position in the block (0 to 31)";Entry.find% &
      \ GOTO 1200 IF Entry.find%>31% OR Entry.find%<0% OR Temp%<0% OR &
      Temp%>(Pcs%-1%) &
      \ GET #1%,BLOCK Dcn.find% &
      \ Temp%=512%*Temp% &
      \ GOSUB 11300 &
      \ Temp.aray$(I%)=SWAP%(CVT$(Dir.field$(Entry.find%,I%))) &
      FOR I%=0% TO 7% &
      \ PRINT #12, "Word";TAB(10%);"Value";TAB(20%);"Lo Byte";TAB(30%); &
      "Hi Byte";TAB(40%);"RAD50" &
      \ PRINT #12, NUM1$(I%);TAB(10%);NUM1$(Temp.aray$(I%)); &
      TAB(20%);NUM1$(Temp.aray$(I%)) AND 255);TAB(30%); &
      NUM1$(SWAP%(Temp.aray$(I%)) AND 255);TAB(40%); &
      RAD5$(Temp.aray$(I%)) FOR I%=0% TO 7% &
      \ PRINT #12, &
      \ Proceeds=-1% &
      \ RETURN &
      ! Reset the "OK to proceed" switch (for write) &
      ! Routine to dump a blockette &
      ! Input the DCN of the blockette &
      ! Input the block number within the DCN &
      ! Input the position in the block &
      ! Get the device cluster from the disk &
      ! Compute the offset into the buffer &
      ! GOSUB to field the buffer &
      ! Load the print array within the blockette &
      ! Dump the blockette &
      ! Set the "OK to proceed" switch (for writes) &
      ! Return &
      &
      &
      &
1100 PRINT "The write option of this program is limited to the"; &
      "building of one blockette" &
      \ PRINT "at any given time. The user must "; &
      "know, in advance, the entire contents of the" &
      \ PRINT "blockette to be built, and must be able to identify the"; &
      "DCN, block offset," &
      \ PRINT "offset for the position off the blockette to be built." &
      \ PRINT &
      \ RETURN &
      ! Subroutine to print the WRITE help message &
      ! Return &
      &
1120 Clus.next%=(SWAP%(Link.next%) AND 14%)/2% &
      \ Block.next%=(SWAP%(Link.next%) AND 240%)/16% &
      \ Entry.next%=(Link.next% AND 496%)/16% &
      \ RETURN &
      ! Subroutine to break apart the next link: &
      ! Clus.next% is the next UPD cluster needed &
      ! Block.next% is the block offset within that cluster &
      ! Entry.next% is the entry offset within that block &
      ! Return &
      &
1130 FIELD #12,Temp%+(I%*16%+I1%+I1%) AS Temp$, &
      2% AS Dir.field$(I%,11%) FOR I1%=0% TO 7% FOR I%=0% TO 31% &
      \ Temp%=0% &
      \ RETURN &
      ! Offset into the buffer Temp% blocks and field as 32, &
      ! 16-byte arrays &
      ! Return &
      &
19000 IF ERR=11 THEN &
      RESUME 32700 IF ERL=1010 &
      \ RESUME 19999 &
      ! If the error is "End of file" then &
      ! Resume @ program end if we are looking for a task &
      ! Resume @ RETURN &
      &
19990 ON ERROR GOTO 0 &
      ! Abort end all else &
      &
19999 RETURN &
      ! Convenient return for error handler &
      &
32700 CLOSE I% FOR I%=1% TO 12% &
      ! Prepare to end &
      &
32767 END &
      ! The end &

```



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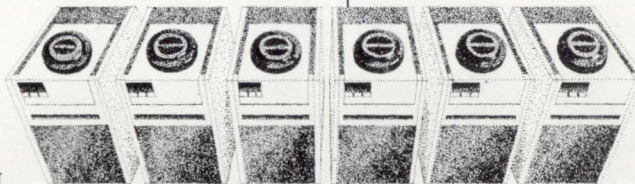


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# RSTS/E MONITOR INTERNALS

## Part 3

By Mike Mayfield, Northwest Digital Software, Box 2-743, Newport, WA 99156

The demand for information on RSTS internals has been so great that I have decided to write a complete book on RSTS monitor internals. It will include not only monitor tables but disk structures, writing device drivers, runtime systems, and resident libraries, FIP, file attributes and performance optimization. Look for more information on it here in the RSTS Pro.

This is the third in a series of four articles describing the internal structure of the RSTS/E V7.0 monitor tables. The articles to date have described job and memory control. This article will describe the structures involved in the device and file control. Both the large and small file systems will be discussed.

After reading this article you may want to go back and take another look at Francois Dubois' article entitled "JBSTAT" in Volume 3, Number 2 of the RSTS Pro. His program makes use of much of the information presented in this article.

### 3.0 FILE CONTROL

A disk is typically broken down into several files. Each file can be treated as if it were a separate disk. RSTS takes care of finding a place to put the file data and then retrieving that information when needed.

Since most RSTS systems are used in commercial and general purpose applications which make frequent use of disk files, improvements in the file control system can have a significant impact on system performance. For this reason DEC essentially rewrote the file control system for version 7 of RSTS.

The result was the large file system. As the name implies this new file control system allows large file sizes (larger than 65,535 blocks). It also includes many performance improvements, especially when the same file is in use by more than one person.

For purposes of this discussion we will call the standard file control system the small file system and the new file control system the large file system.

### 3.1 SCB — SMALL FILE CONTROL BLOCK

Each time a file is opened a structure called a Small Control Block (SCB) is allocated to the opener. This structure contains all the information needed to access the opened file. This information includes the file size, current block number, pointers to seven clusters of the file and a pointer to the remaining cluster information in the directory.

When a file is accessed the file size (SSIZ) is checked against the desired block number. If the desired block number is greater than the current file size an error is returned for GETs and an automatic file extension is done for PUTs (except in the case of contiguous files and update mode).

The window base block number (SSFVB) and the window information (SSWND) are used to map the logical block number supplied by the user into a physical block number on the disk. A window holds pointers to seven clusters of the file. If the desired logical block is contained in the seven clusters pointed to by the current window the physical block can be determined immediately. If it is not contained in the current window a window turn is performed.

A window turn in the small file system consists of following the linked list of retrieval entries in the directory starting at the beginning and continuing until the entry for the desired cluster is found. (See Scott Banks' articles on directory structure). Once the desired retrieval block is found it is loaded into the window (SSWND) and the window base block (SSFVB) is updated to show the new window mapping base.

A small file system control block (SCB) has the following format:

SSSTS	1	Status flags	Disk driver index	0	SSIDX
SSUNT	3	FIP unit number	Pending transfers	2	SSPT
		File size		4	SSSIZ
		Next block to read/write		6	SSNVB
		Block number of first block in window		8	SSFVB
SSPLG	13	Flag bits	Cluster size - 1	10	SSCLUS
		Block number of UPD name entry (LSB)		12	SSUFND
		Offset in block/2   MSB of SSUFND		14	
		Retrieval entry window		16	SSWND
				18	
				20	
				22	
				24	
				26	
				28	
				30	

Offset	Symbol	Description
0	SSIDX	This byte is the driver index. It is always 0 to show that the device associated with the SCB is a disk device.
1	SSSTS	This byte contains the file status bits (see section 3.1.1).























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As the list of retrieval entries is followed, the linked list of WCBs for this file is checked. If the desired retrieval entry is already contained in a WCB, that WCB is used instead of following the link on disk. When the desired retrieval entry is found the information is copied into the current WCB's retrieval entry window.

The format of a window control block is as follows:

W\$STS	1	Status flags	Disk driver index	0	W\$IDX
W\$FLAG	3	Flag bits	Job number *2	2	W\$JBNO
W\$NVBM	5	Next block # (MSB)	Pending transfers	4	W\$PT
		Next block number (LSB)		6	W\$NVBL
		Pointer to FCB at F\$CLUS		8	W\$FCB
		Retrieval entry number		10	W\$REN
		Pointer to next WCB for this FCB		12	W\$WCB
		FBB of next window		14	W\$NXT
				16	
				18	W\$WND
				20	
		Retrieval entry window		22	
				24	
				26	
				28	
				30	

Offset	Symbol	Description
0	W\$IDX	This byte is the driver index. It is always 0 to show that the device associated with the WCB is a disk device.
1	W\$STS	This byte contains the file status bits for this user (see section 3.3.1).
2	W\$JBNO	This byte contains the job number, times 2, of the user that owns this WCB.
3	W\$FLAG	This byte contains file status bits and locked block information (see section 3.3.2).
4	W\$PT	This byte contains a count of the number of transfers pending on this file by this user. When an I/O is requested this byte is set to 1. If the request requires more than one physical I/O transfer this value is increased as necessary. An I/O request can require more than one transfer if it involves more than one block and the blocks either cross a cluster boundary or cross a cylinder boundary on a disk that doesn't do automatic cylinder movement (such as RL01/02).
5	W\$NVBM	This byte contains the most significant byte of the next block number to use for sequential access.
6	W\$NVBL	This word contains the least significant bytes of the next block number to use for sequential access.



- 8 W\$FCB This word contains a pointer to the file control block (FCB) at offset F\$CLUS in the FCB.
- 10 W\$REN This word contains the current retrieval entry number. It identifies which retrieval entry is currently stored in W\$WND of the WCB.
- 12 W\$WCB The low order bits of this word are file status bits. The high order bits are a pointer to the next WCB for this FCB. See section 3.3.3 for more information.
- 14 W\$NXT This double-word is the FIP block/sub-block (FBB) for the next retrieval entry in the directory. It allows immediate access to the next retrieval entry in the directory if sequential access is taking place.
- 18 W\$WND The following seven words are the current retrieval window. They contain the device cluster number of the first block of each cluster for this retrieval entry.

**3.3.1 W\$STS — Status Flags**

The status flags in W\$STS show the status and restrictions placed on the file for the current user. Bear in mind that each time a file is simultaneously opened a new WCB is allocated and each WCB has its own set of status flags. The format of W\$STS is as follows:

Bit	Symbol	Description
8	DDNFS	The disk is opened non-file structured. The remaining status bits apply as if the disk were opened file structured.
9	DDRLO	The file is read protected against the user.
10	DDWLO	The file is write protected against the user.
11	WC\$UPD	The file is open for update (mode 1).
12	WC\$CTG	The file is contiguous.
13	WC\$LCK	The current block of the file is implicitly locked.
14	WC\$UFD	The file is really a UFD opened in non-file structured mode (i.e.; OPEN "DKO:[1,2]" AS FILE 1).
15	WC\$USE	This WCB received the original write privileges.

**3.3.2 W\$FLAG — Flag Bits**

W\$FLG serves two purposes. First, it defines the number of blocks that are included in an implicit lock. Second, it contains status bits similar in purpose to W\$STS. The format of W\$FLG is as follows:

Bit	Symbol	Description
0-4	WC\$LLK	These five bits specify the number of blocks that are included in the current implicit lock. This value may vary from 0 to 31.

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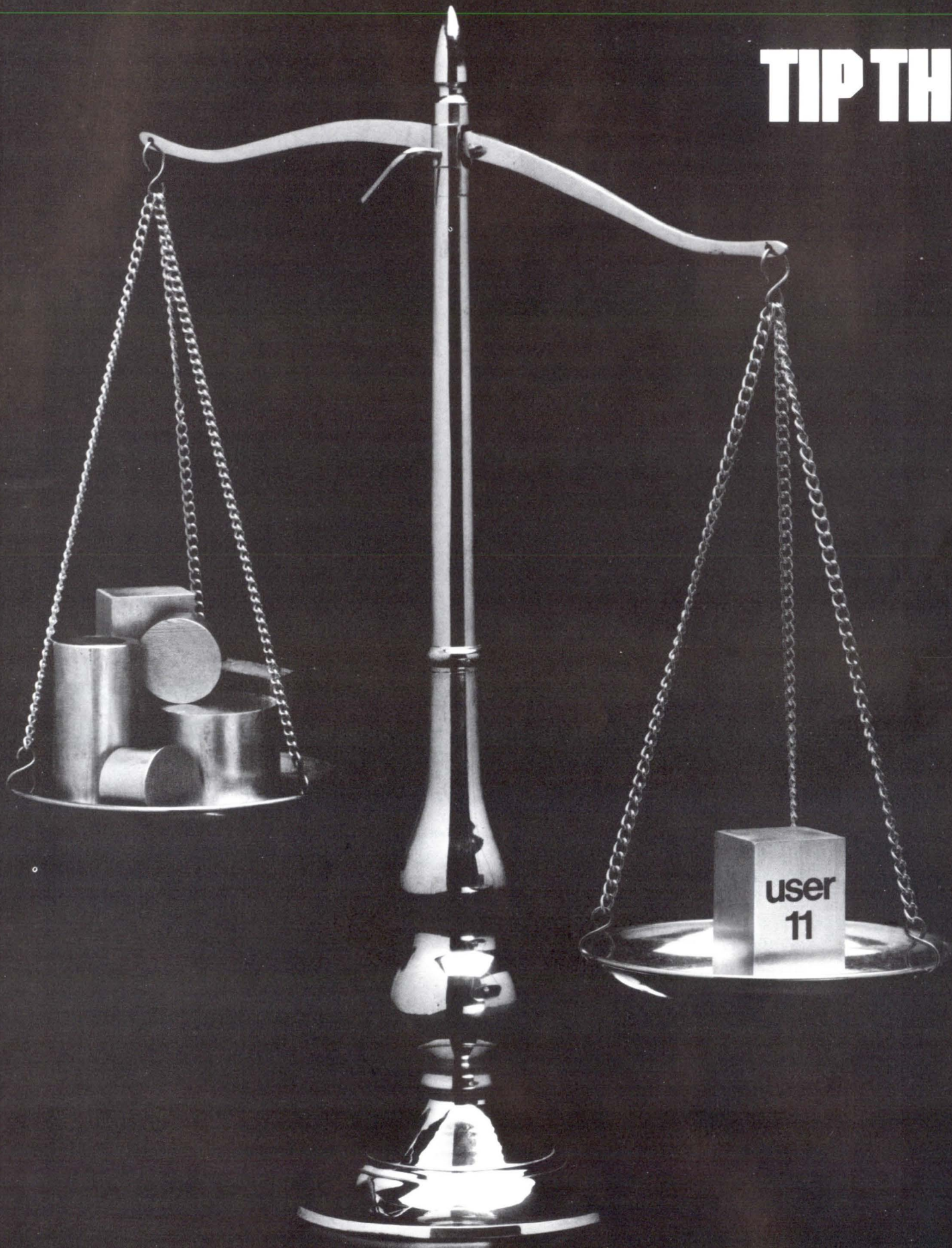








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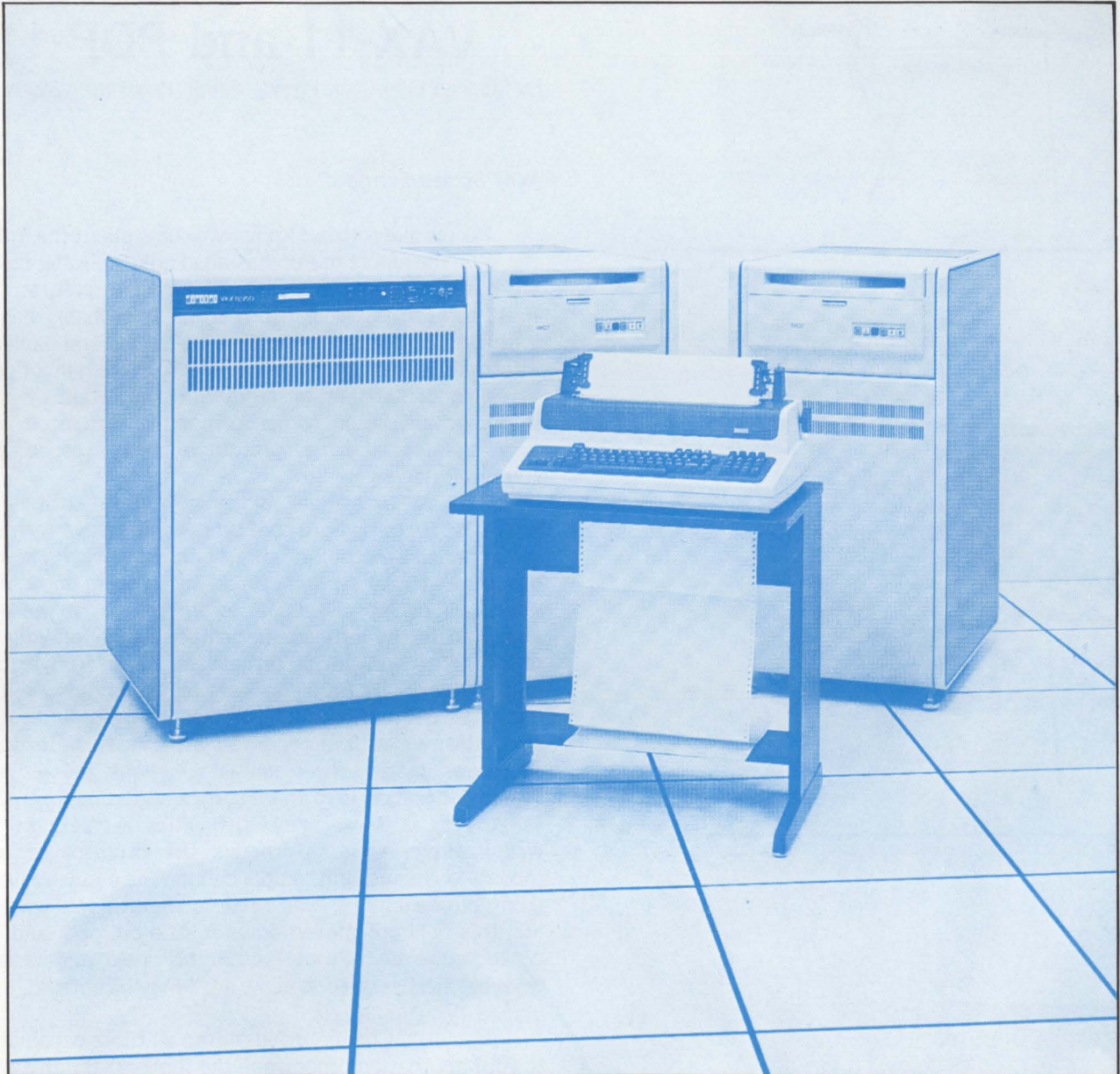


# The VAX-SCENE

Number 4

(RSTS PROFESSIONAL, Vol. 3, No. 3)

September 1981



## INSIDE:

- VIDIO/11 and SCRNI0/11: CRT-Independent Screen Forms for VAX-11 and PDP-11
- Report for Commercial Working Group on Mag Tape Problem Survey















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## Tape Quality

There are four main areas of concern regarding tape quality.

1. The type of mylar used, which is the backing for the magnetic tape. There are several different types available and the quality varies considerably.
2. The adhesive used to attach the oxide coating to that mylar.
3. Testing and quality control in manufacturing.
4. Clarification of whether the tape you are buying is surplus tape or seconds.

The quality of the tape will affect you in the following ways:

The type of mylar, as well as the adhesive used to attach the oxide to the mylar, may cause problems on high speed tape drives such as the new 125 inch per second tape drives. The problem is referred to as sticktion where fast movement of the tape across the heads will generate heat on the head and when you stop the tape, the mylar will actually melt and stick to the head or other components.

Another problem you can experience with tapes is the shedding of the oxide coating. This is due to poor mylar or poor adhesive used in attaching the oxide to the mylar. As the oxide sheds from the tape, it will contaminate the head and as you put other tapes on the tape drive, it will deposit that oxide on other tapes which may not be shedding and will contaminate an entire tape library. This becomes critical with the higher density and higher speed tape transports.

On the issue of testing and quality control, the simple statement that not all tapes are created equal sums it up. Be very careful to read the specification for the tape and determine what the tape manufacture means when he says it is guaranteed. Guaranteed against what and for how long.

The last issue we have encountered is surplus tapes or secondary tapes. These tapes are generally not high quality and will be sold as new tapes. Frequently you have problems with these tapes since they are an older

type of tape and are subject to shedding oxide, being brittle, getting creases in them easily and readily and are frequently made using lower quality mylar or coatings which will create sticktion problems as well as the shedding problem.

## Operator Damage

IBM has developed a fairly complete operators guide on how to properly handle tapes. We have found, however, that frequently DEC users have not been exposed to proper handling techniques and will unwittingly damage tapes by squeezing the tapes on the flanges. A tape that sticks out instead of stacking neatly on rewinds is called a "flyer." If the tape is squeezed on the flanges, these "flyers" will be crimped producing edge damage. As it goes through the tape drive this crimped edge will lift the tape off the head temporarily as the tape passes the crimped position. This will create all sorts of problems for your machine.

Furthermore, you should be very careful to have a dust and dirt free environment for the tape drive. Operators should insure that their hands are clean and that physical touching of the tape is kept to a minimum and should be restricted to touching the leader section of the tape. We are all familiar with diagrams that show head clearance on a disk drive between the surface of the disk and the head and what contaminants will do. At 1600 BPI or 6250 BPI densities, you have a similar problem with contaminants, if the material lifts the tape off the head even a tiny fraction, it will cause total signal loss from the tape. Many respondents to the survey indicated they were **cleaning the tape drive after each tape** was used. If there is any question about shedding from a tape you should definitely clean your tape drive, thoroughly cleaning the head and columns, after each tape is used.

## Software

The last and yet fairly significant point is a definite need for improvement in tape handling by the software. Many people reported a high frustra-

tion level when processing several tapes in a back-up set whether DEC or the RMS back-up utility in which case, after processing two or three tapes, a tape error would cause an abort of the operation and therefore, necessitate starting from the beginning again. Most respondents were business application sites and were working with large block transfers of 2,048 bytes per block or larger. Many were working with multi-volume tape sets.

## DEC Maintenance

The remainder of the problems could be the result of a lack of information to DEC field service people on what a tape drive is, how to maintain it and how to repair it properly. Several respondents indicated that DEC had spent days trying to repair their tape drives with little or no success.

## Summary

In summary, we feel that the following could help correct most of the problems. Improved documentation by DEC for their personnel in maintaining the drives, documentation for tape operators to familiarize themselves with the peculiar problems of tape processing, proper handling of the tape and proper selection of tape to be used on the tape transport. This is not an endorsement of any particular tape manufacturer, but we have found that people have had the least problems with the Graham Epic 480 tapes and the highest number of problems with tapes manufactured by such companies as Wabash, Memorex, and other less noted tape manufacturers. Reasonable acceptance was found by people using 3M tapes and BASF tapes.

One final comment, there is a definite need for improving the software which is used to access the tape drives.

This report has been prepared from the survey conducted through the VAX/VMS SIG Newsletter by:

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# TIPS & TECHNIQUES

## A Column For The Advanced RSTS/E User

By Steven L. Edwards, Software Techniques

Welcome to "Tips & Techniques." This column is dedicated to the premise that the free exchange of knowledge between users will benefit the entire user community.

Further, this column is dedicated to the premise that RSTS is not an end point, but it is an excellent starting point to build upon. We all know that one system can not be all things to all people. The RSTS developers do a very good job, but their efforts can not solve everyone's problems, i.e., the developers are currently required to maintain Basic-Plus (read 16KW) compatibility. In future columns we will see how this limits the performance of the CUSPs, and what to do about it.

### Correction!

In the last issue of the RSTS Professional, there was an article about a mini Basic-Plus-2 debugger routine (DEB). The routine located line numbers by searching through the program section (PSECT) named \$CODE. The routine located the starting address and the length of \$CODE by defining two additional PSECTs named \$CODD, and \$CODF. These new program sections had the default access code of read-write (RW). Since that article was written, a patch to the compiler has been released that changes \$CODE and \$PDATA to have the read-only attribute. Since TKB allocates memory for program sections alphabetically within access code (RO or RW), \$CODE is no longer allocated between \$CODD and \$CODF. If you change the access code of \$CODD and \$CODF to be read-only, the routine will work as described.

### EDT Version 2

In this issue we will examine EDT version 2. EDT V2 is an entirely new full screen editor with journaling and user definable keys. EDT V2's relation to EDT V1 is purely casual. EDT V1 was (yes WAS) difficult to learn and worse to use. EDT V2 is the most incredible editor I've seen, and it is available on all of DEC's major operating systems. If you are using anything else, please stop, you are wasting your valuable time. Using EDT V2 as a full screen editor (change/keypad mode) will increase your productivity. I never thought anything could replace TECO as my primary editor, but EDT V2 won me over in a single afternoon. EDT V2 lacks the conditional features of TECO, but it performs better (speed-wise) on an 11/34 than TECO/VTEDIT on an 11/70! I recommend building the memory resident library shared version if you have more than one user editing at a time.

I strongly urge any serious RSTS/E user to read the EDT manual that came with patch kits "E" and "F."

After I used EDT V2 for a while, I began to notice a few minor irritations:

- EDT V2 leaves your VT100 in ANSI mode regardless of it's initial setting.
- EDT V2 requires your terminal to be set to 'NO ESC SEQ' for the alternate keypad to be of any value.
- EDT V2 requires each user to have their own initializer file in their account.

Soon these minor irritations exceeded my tolerance, so I developed the patches below.

Each of these patches can 'stand alone,' i.e. don't install the first patch if you don't want your VT100 to always be reset to VT52 mode.

If you have developed minor irritations of a software nature, developed a useful tip or technique, or have a question requiring an in-depth response, please drop me a line.

```

; EDT V2 PROGRAM PATCHES
; EDT FEATURE PATCH
; JAM VT100 BACK TO VT52 MODE UPON EXIT.
; COPYRIGHT (C) 1981 SOFTWARE TECHNIQUES, INC., LOS ALAMITOS, CA
;
; MAC EDTV52.PAT=EDTV52.COR
; LBR IOMOD.OLD=ED2LIB/EX:IOMOD
; PAT IOMOD.NEW=IOMOD.OLD/CS:176443,EDTV52.PAT/CS:21276
; LBR ED2LIB/RP=IOMOD.NEW
; TKB @ED2???

.TITLE IOMOD
.IDENT /SOFTEC/

.PSECT IOCOD
$$$LOC = . ; START OF PSECT.
IO.CXR = $$$LOC+742 ; CLEAR XRB.
IO.CFR = $$$LOC+766 ; CLEAR FIRQB.
. ; ADD SOME NEW CODE.

CALL IO.CFR ; CLEAR FIRQB.
MOV #405,R0 ; POINT TO FIRQB+PQFUN.
MOVB #20,(R0)+ ; UU.TRM.
MOV #-1,(R0) ; FOR OUR TERMINAL.
EMT 66 ; .UUO HOOK.

CMPB @#414,#377 ; FIRQB+PQNAM1+2.
BNE 10$ ; XON?, NOPE.
; WE ASSUME THAT ANY TERMINAL
; WITH XON SET IS A VT100.

CALL IO.CXR ; CLEAR XRB.
MOV #442,R0 ; POINT TO XRB.
MOV #LEN,(R0) ; LENGTH OF TEXT.
MOV (R0)+,(R0)+ ; " " "
MOV #TXT,(R0) ; ADDRESS OF TEXT.
EMT 4 ; .WRITE

10$: CALL IO.CFR ; CLEAR FIRQB.
EMT 50 ; .RTS

ESC = 155. ; ESCAPE.

.ENABL LC
.BYTE ESC, '[, '? , '2, '1 ; SET VT52 MODE.
LEN = .-TXT

.END

```



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	<input type="checkbox"/> Other — Please indicate below:	_____







RUN FIXBP2  
What is the name of the .OBJ file holding the library?  
CSPCOM

Step 6. Save the old CSPCOM library in case something happens

RUN \$PIP  
\*LB:CSPCOM,OLD=LB:CSPCOM,OLB/RE  
\*^Z ;Control/Z to exit

Step 7. Create a new CSPCOM library.

RUN \$LBR  
LBR>LB:CSPCOM/CR:165.:1152.:256.  
LBR>LB:CSPCOM=CSPCOM  
LBR>^Z ;Control/Z to exit

Step 8. Patch the BUILD program

RUN \$CPATCH  
CPATCH V7.0-07 RSTS V7.0-07 SOFTEC Dev 11/70  
File to patch - BUILD.BAS=BUILD.BAS  
#CSPBLD/CS:28071  
#^Z ;Control/Z to exit  
File to patch - ^Z ;Control/Z to exit

Step 9. Compile the BUILD program

RUN \$CSPCOM  
CSP>BUILD/OBJ=BUILD  
CSP>^Z ;Control/Z to exit

Step 10. Task-build the BUILD program

RUN \$TKB  
TKB>BUILD=BUILD, LB:CSPCOM/LB  
TKB>/  
ENTER OPTIONS:  
TKB>UNITS=12  
TKB>ASG=SY:5:6:7:8:9:10:11:12  
TKB>EXTTSK=512  
TKB>//

Step 11. Replace the BUILD program on your library account

RUN \$PIP  
\*\$BUILD.TSK=BUILD.TSK  
\*\$BUILD.BAC/DE:NOWARNING  
\*^Z ;Control/Z to exit

Step 12. Task-build the CSPCOM library

RUN \$TKB  
TKB>@CSPLIB

Step 13. Convert the task builder's output to a resident library

RUN \$MAKSIL  
MAKSIL V7.0-07+/MU PATCH RSTS V7.0-07 SOFTEC Dev 11/70  
Resident Library name? CSPCOM  
Task-built Resident Library input file <CSPCOM.TSK>  
Include symbol table (Yes/No) <Yes>?  
Symbol table input file <CSPCOM.STB>?  
Resident Library output file <CSPCOM.LIB>?  
CSPCOM built in 8 K-words, 516 symbols in the directory  
CSPCOM.TSK renamed to CSPCOM.TSK<40>

At this point, you have completed the patch and installation procedure. The files CSPCOM.TSK and CSPCOM.STB should be placed in an important account other than [1,2]. I recommend the use of account LB: for this purpose. The file CSPCOM.LIB should be placed in account [0,1]. After the files are placed in the appropriate accounts, use UTILTY to add the resident library and modify your start-up procedure to add the library automatically.

If you want to create any multi-user tasks, it will be necessary to use your preferred editor (Steve would rather have me say EDT) to modify the BUILD command files. The procedure involves locating the command lines to build a program, and appending the /MU switch to the COMPILE command. For example:

```
$BREAK
$DOPAT @ ~ PATLOC:PA1023.CMD
OLD ~ INPUT:SYSTAT.BAS
COMPILE ~ SYSTEM:SYSTAT < 232 > /MU
```

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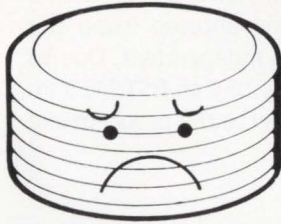
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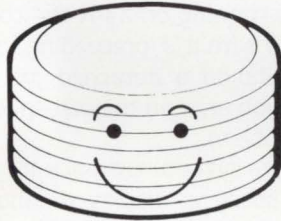


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**NOTE:** The information contained in this document should not be construed as a commitment by the author for the accuracy or reliability of this information.

Installation of this software is not supported and will result in the operation of a non-standard system. Use this software at your own risk.

# The Implementation of Hidden Files Under RSTS/E Version 7.0

By John F. Sandhoff, Data Processing, California State University at Long Beach

## An Introduction to Hidden Files

There exists in certain RSTS/E applications a desire to make certain files 'invisible' to the general user public. DEC has partly recognized this need and incorporated, under version 7.0, a means of making it impossible for non-privileged users to get directory information of cross-account, private files. This article describes a method developed by and in use at Long Beach State University that permits specific public files to be transparent to non-privileged users.

Why a need for hidden files? In many environments, especially educational installations, it is highly desirable for certain programs to be able to access a data file without using privileges, but still be able to maintain a high degree of security. Defining a file as public allows a program to access it, but unfortunately it also allows anyone that knows the filename to access it. If the name could be kept secret, and a discreet name chosen to prevent a lucky guess, all requirements would be met.

The \$DIRECT program can be disabled, but such an action is not very practical. Besides, users can still write their own directory program by using the appropriate SYS calls. If the directory SYS calls are also disabled (or privileged), many programs that rely on performing a directory lookup, such as \$PIP.SAV and the task builder, would fail to operate. Even though it can be argued that disabling \$TKB provides definite system throughput gains, such a move is generally impractical.

The process of hiding files as described in this document is a relatively simple change to the FIP directory lookup code. It is an extension of feature patch 3.5.9, which restricts directory lookups. What happens is this:

When a directory lookup request is made to FIP (SYS calls 6+15 or 6+17), a section of code is executed that scans a user's UFD. Normally, if the specified file exists, the directory information is returned. With patch 3.5.9 installed, this information is returned only if the requested file is defined as public to the calling user. (Please refer to the System Release Notes for more information). The hidden files patch presented here carries this mechanism one step further — if a file is public, another status bit is checked, and if this bit is on, the file is considered by FIP to be hidden, resulting in no directory information being returned.

After the installation of the hidden files option, a hidden file can be opened by a program (OPEN statement,

CALFIP), and loaded or run with the 'OLD' or 'RUN' command, as applicable. However, such a file will not appear on a directory listing (except, of course, to the owner or a privileged user), and can not be accessed by programs that perform a directory lookup before opening the file. (Note that this includes PIP.SAV, TKB.TSK, and some RSX-based programs. RNO is not affected.)

Particular attention should be given to the fact that this patch functions in conjunction with DEC feature patch 3.5.9. Any installation that is interested in enhanced file security should already have this feature patch installed. This patch can be applied to either sub-version -07 or -08 of RSTS V7.0.

Please understand that the modifications described in this document do not in any way cause the RSTS file structure or FIP to lose track of any files. The modifications affect ONLY the return of information as requested by the directory lookup SYS calls by non-privileged tasks. A privileged user or job maintains full functionality of the SYS calls. It should also be pointed out that files can never be hidden from their owner. They will ALWAYS appear on the owner's directory listing, and this patch by design will NOT hide the files from their owner (or any privileged user).

Installing Hidden Files on your system involves the following changes:

- A patch to the RSTS FIP routines to modify the directory lookup calls
- A patch to \$DIRECT to look for and respect the 'hidden file' status bit. Since \$DIRECT does not use SYS calls, a separate procedure is necessary to implement hidden files in this program.
- A one-word patch to the CLEAN option of INIT. Without this patch, all hidden files will be reset to non-hidden status every time your system crashes.
- A one-word patch to \$ONLCLN, for the same reason as given above.
- DEC feature patch 3.5.9 MUST be installed to enable hidden files.
- DEC feature patch 10.3.1 should be installed to the DIRECT program. While this is not mandatory, it is







```

;
; THE ROUTINE LISTED BELOW IS CONTAINED WITHIN PSECT 'DIR0' OF
; THE FIP CODE. IT IS RESPONSIBLE FOR RETURNING DIRECTORY
; INFORMATION AS REQUESTED BY SYS CALLS 6+15 AND 6+17 WHEN
; THE TARGET DEVICE IS DISK.
;
; THE FIRST FEW LINES DEAL WITH RETRIEVING THE NEXT FILENAME AND
; ARE NOT NECESSARY TO THE UNDERSTANDING OF WHAT WE ARE INTERESTED
; IN. STARTING AT THE CODE LABELED 'XXXX', WE HAVE A VALID
; FILENAME ENTRY BLOCKETTE IN CORE, POINTED TO BY REGISTER R5.
; SEE FIGURE 1 ELSEWHERE IN THIS DOCUMENT FOR THE LAYOUT OF
; THIS INFORMATION.
;
; THIS ROUTINE RETURNS WITH THE CARRY BIT SET IF THE FILENAME
; WAS NOT FOUND. NOTE THAT UPD'S AND FILES MARKED FOR DELETION
; ARE IGNORED.
;
; THIS CODE ASSUMES THAT FEATURE PATCH 3.5.9 HAS BEEN INSTALLED.
; THIS PATCH CHANGES THE INSTRUCTION AT '..DIRP' FROM AN
; UNCONDITIONAL BRANCH TO A CONDITIONAL BRANCH.
;

```

```

TOP: CALL 1$ ; GET NEXT UNIT ELSEWHERE
START: CALL @#RDENXT ; GET NEXT FILENAME
      BEQ TOP ; NO MORE FILES, GET NEXT UNIT

XXXX: BITB #US.UPD!US.DEL,10(R5); CHECK THE USTAT BYTE
      BNE START ; IF UPD OR DELETED, ACT AS IF NOT THERE
      TSTB @#FIPRIV ; IS THIS USER PRIVILEGED?
..DIRP: BEQ 20$ ; SKIP ROUTINES IF PRIV USER
      CMP (R0),@#FIUSER ; ARE WE REQUESTING DATA ON OURSELVES?
      BEQ 20$ ; YES, SKIP ROUTINES

      MOVB 11(R5),R2 ; RETRIEVE FILE'S PROTECTION CODE
      CMPB 1(R0),@#FIUSER+1; SAME PROJECT NUMBERS?
      BEQ 10$ ; YES, SHIFT ACCORDINGLY
      ASH #-2,R2 ; SHFT PROTECTION CODE
10$: ASH #-3,R2 ; SHIFT AGAIN
20$: RETURN

```

```

;
; THE FOLLOWING CODE CONTAINS THE MODIFICATIONS ADDED BY THE
; HIDDEN FILES PATCH. THE LOCATION LABELED HERE AS 'PATCH' IS
; WITHIN THE RSTS PATCH SPACE.
;

```

```

TOP: CALL 1$ ; GET NEXT UNIT ELSEWHERE
START: CALL @#RDENXT ; GET NEXT FILENAME
      BEQ TOP ; NO MORE FILES, GET NEXT UNIT

XXXX: BITB #US.UPD!US.DEL,10(R5); CHECK THE USTAT BYTE
      BNE START ; IF UPD OR DELETED, ACT AS IF NOT THERE
      TSTB @#FIPRIV ; IS THIS USER PRIVILEGED?
..DIRP: BEQ 20$ ; SKIP ROUTINES IF PRIV USER
      CMP (R0),@#FIUSER ; ARE WE REQUESTING DATA ON OURSELVES?
      BEQ 20$ ; YES, SKIP ROUTINES

      CALL PATCH ; *** THIS IS OUR JUMP TO THE PATCH
      CMPB 1(R0),@#FIUSER+1; SAME PROJECT NUMBERS?
      BEQ 10$ ; YES, SHIFT ACCORDINGLY
      ASH #-2,R2 ; SHFT PROTECTION CODE
10$: ASH #-3,R2 ; SHIFT AGAIN
20$: RETURN

```

```

PATCH: ; THIS IS THE ROUTINE PLACED IN PATCH
        ; SPACE
        ; RETRIEVE FILE'S PROTECTION CODE
        ; LOOK FOR 'HIDDEN BIT' IN UAA FIELD
        ; NOT HIDDEN, PROCEED, ELSE
        ; FUDGE THE PROTECTION CODE TO
        ; ASSURE FAILURE

5$: RETURN

```

**Patching Procedure**

This section lists step-by-step instructions to apply the hidden files patch to RSTS/E V7.0 systems. This patch to FIP assumes that there is enough space in 'PATCH' to add the necessary code. (This is discussed more completely elsewhere.)

For those of you brave enough to venture into the fascinating world of bit-twiddling, here goes:

**NOTE:** If ANY of the old values appear incorrect, ESPECIALLY if any of the locations in the patch space are non-zero, ABORT THE PATCH PROCEDURE by typing a Control/C. Do NOT install the patches if things "don't seem right".

- 1) Add the following patch to FIP. If the directory code on your system is non-resident, this patch can NOT be installed to your currently running monitor. You must use the INIT PATCH option. Note that if DEC patch 3.5.9 has already been installed, the portions marked by asterisks must be deleted!

```

RUN $ONLPAT
Command file name? (Type a <LF> if entering it by hand)
File to patch? RSTS.SIL (Type 'filnam=' to save the patch)
Module name? OVR (Type a <LF> for current SIL)
Base address? ..DIRP (FIP if code is resident)
Offset address? 0
** Base Offset Old New?
** ?????? 000000 000415 ? 1415 (This is DEC patch 3.5.9)
** ?????? 000002 ?????? ? ^Z
Offset address? 10
** Base Offset Old New?
** ?????? 000010 116502 ? 4737
** ?????? 000012 000011 ? PATCH+356
** ?????? 000014 126037 ? ^Z
Base address? ^Z
Module name? RSTS
Base address? PATCH
Offset address? 356
** Base Offset Old New?
** ?????? 000356 000000 ? 116502
** ?????? 000360 000000 ? 11
** ?????? 000362 000000 ? 32765
** ?????? 000364 000000 ? 10
** ?????? 000366 000000 ? 14
** ?????? 000370 000000 ? BEQ+2
** ?????? 000372 000000 ? 52702
** ?????? 000374 000000 ? 24
** ?????? 000376 000000 ? 207
** ?????? 000400 ?????? ? ^C (Uparrow/C to exit)

```

**2) Add the following patch to (0,1)INIT.SYS**

```

File to patch? (0,1)INIT.SYS
Base address? CLEAN
Offset address? 3402
** Base Offset Old New?
** 113002 003402 042765 ? <LF> (This step is for verification)
** 113002 003404 000013 ? 3
** 113002 003406 000014 ? ^C (Uparrow/C to exit)

```

**3) Add the following patch to \$ONLCLN.SAV**

```

File to patch? SY:[1,2]ONLCLN.SAV
Base address? 55702
Offset address? 0
** Base Offset Old New?
** 055702 000000 042765 ? <LF> (This step is for verification)
** 055702 000002 000013 ? 3
** 055702 000004 000014 ? ^C (Uparrow/C to exit)

```

- 4) Marvel that your system is still running. The binary patches are finished, all that is left is a modification to the \$DIRECT program, and the typing in of a program that makes it easy to hide a file.

- 5) Change the following three lines in the \$DIRECT source. The first line contains only an addition, as indicated.

```

2250 P%(I%)=U%(U%,I%) FOR I%=1% TO 3% &
      \ P%(5%)=SWAP%(U%(U%,4%)) AND 255% &
      \ ULNK%=U%(U%,0%) &
      \ UAA%=U%(U%,6%) &
      \ RETURN IF UAA% AND 8% IF P1%<1% UNLESS FILE.PPN%=P0% &
      \ R%=FNL%(UAA%,F%) &
      \ P%(4%)=U%(R%,2%) &
      \ P%(6%)=U%(R%,3%) &
      \ P%(7%)=U%(R%,4%) &
      \ P%(8%)=U%(R%,1%) &
      \ P%(9%),P8%=U%(R%,7%) &
      \ P%(10%)=U%(R%,5%) &
      \ P%(11%)=U%(R%,6%) &
      \ P%(I%)=0% FOR I%=12% TO 23% &
      \ P%(24%)=(U%(U%,5%) AND 255%)+(SWAP%(U%(U%,5%)) AND 255%) &
      \ P%(25%)=U%(FNL%(U%(U%,7%),F%),1%) &
      \ MSB.SI%=P%(11%) AND 255% AND P%(10%)=0% &
      \ GOSUB 10100 IF FCBLST%<0% AND (S1% AND 1032%) &
      \ P%(4%)=(P%(4%)+P8%-1%) AND -P8% IF S2% AND 2048% &
      \ I%=U%(R%,0%) AND (NOT 15%) &
      \ IF I% THEN R%=FNL%(I%,F%) &
      \ P%(I%+11%)=U%(R%,I%) FOR I%=1% TO 7% &
      \ I%=U%(R%,0%) AND (NOT 15%) &
      \ IF I% THEN R%=FNL%(I%,F%) &
      \ P%(I%+18%)=U%(R%,I%) FOR I%=1% TO 5% &

2355 IF (S1% AND 5%) THEN &
      \ X% = (USTAT% AND 128%)/128% &
      \ X% = (UAA% AND 8%)/4% UNLESS X% &
      \ PRINT #0%, MID(" *- ",X%+1%,1%); &
      \
      \ ! THE FILE IS MARKED FOR DELETION IF BIT 7 OF &
      \ ! THE USTAT BYTE IS SET &
      \ ! THE FILE IS HIDDEN IF BIT 3 OF THE ACCOUNTING &
      \ ! LINK IS SET &
      \ ! NOTE THAT THE MDEL FLAG TAKES PRECEDENCE OVER &
      \ ! THE HIDDEN FLAG &

300 CROSS.PROTECT%=-1% (This is DEC feature patch 10.3.1)

```

- 6) Recompile the \$DIRECT source.
- 7) If you are lucky enough to have this document on a release tape, load the tape and copy the file 'HIDE.BAS' from it. Otherwise, limber up your typing finger(s), and start typing in the listing from Ap-















# The RSTS/E System Manager

By Jeffrey R. Harrow, 485 Creekview Dr., Stone Mountain, GA 30083

**Welcome to** another issue of the RSTS/E Pro. Let's begin this month by talking about some SPR responses:

In an earlier issue I pointed out that Datatrieve's error messages did not contain the "%" or "?" initial character utilized by the RSTS/E BATCH and ATPK processors. This omission is causing undetermined results while your control file continues processing after a DTR error has occurred.

DEC indicated that:

"Datatrieve-11 is a layered product that is available on six (6) different operating systems. The same message is used by all. Therefore, it is not appropriate that operating system specific things be included . . ."

Now considering what we pay for these layered products, **purchased specifically for a given operating system**, I continue to feel that whatever operating system dependent modifications are required **should well be made**. How do you feel about this? Send some letters for publication and perhaps we can get DEC's attention.

In any event, I was provided with a site-by-site work-around:

The DTR message file (LB:QUERY.MSG) is an RMS Indexed file and can be modified as you see fit (of course there are a LOT of messages in there and you will have to determine the severity of the event which causes each message and prepend the appropriate "%" or "?" characters).

The record definition follows:

```
01 MESSAGE.
03 MESSAGE-NUMBER PIC 9(4);
  USAGE COMP;
  EDIT-STRING IS -(5)9.
03 MODULE PIC IS X(4).
03 SUBROUTINE PIC X(6).
03 TYPE PIC X.
03 TEXT PIC X(60);
```

Have fun.

EDT Version 2, when put into "C"hange (keypad) mode, sets a VT100 terminal to ANSI mode. When EDT exits, it **does not** return the terminal to VT52 mode if that is how it was originally set.

A large body of older software (including TECO's VTEDIT and several Word Processing Products) assume a terminal in VT52 mode. Now, DEC is advising:

"...The VT100 was not intended to be used in VT52 compatibility mode except to replace VT52s."

"...suggest that he leave the VT100s in native mode, and place some code at the front of his programs that detects the presence of a VT100 and switches it to VT52 mode."

Well, that's one way to take care of the problem if **you have the source code (or a hook) for the program**. Of course there are many programs purchased from another vendors where this is not the case. Most of us operate in a mixed environment. [See "Tips & Techniques", page 60.]

As no recommended "standard" for dealing with these bi-modal terminals has been set up, consider the following:

It is really quite simple for any program which intends to utilize the new "ANSI" functionality of a VT 100 to, during program initiation, **query the terminal** and **remember** what type it actually is, then **change** the terminal to ANSI mode if it is a VT100, and **just prior to termination, change the terminal back to VT52 mode if** that was its original configuration.

This methodology would allow users with "older" unchangable software to leave their terminal in VT52 mode, and will allow newer software, with very little additional overhead, to use the newer VT100 features. Remember, a philosophy which attempts to consider the **global** picture, rather than a picture selective to a given program, will help prevent incompatibility and its attendant problems at a later time.

The NFT (DECnet Network File Transfer Utility) documentation indicates that the "/BL" (Block mode) switch must be used for non-ASCII files without recorded "attributes" and indicates, as an example, files with .OBJ extensions.

Well, it turns out that MAC (the RSX assembler under RSTS/E) turns out .OBJ files **with** attributes. DEC's response is:

"What it (the documentation) should further state is that it should NOT be used for files **with** record attributes (ie. MAC .OBJ files). The problem is that those utilities which rely on the record attributes to indicate the correct EOF pointer with a variable or Fixed length file get confused when you transfer a file that **has** attributes **with** the "/BL" switch. Those utilities (like RT11's MACRO.SAV) which **don't** use record attributes rely on the binary data alone to give it the EOF pointer, and **must** be copied with the "/BL" switch to preserve the binary data block for block. The proper way to transfer .OBJ files is to use the "/BL" switch **only** with unattributed files."









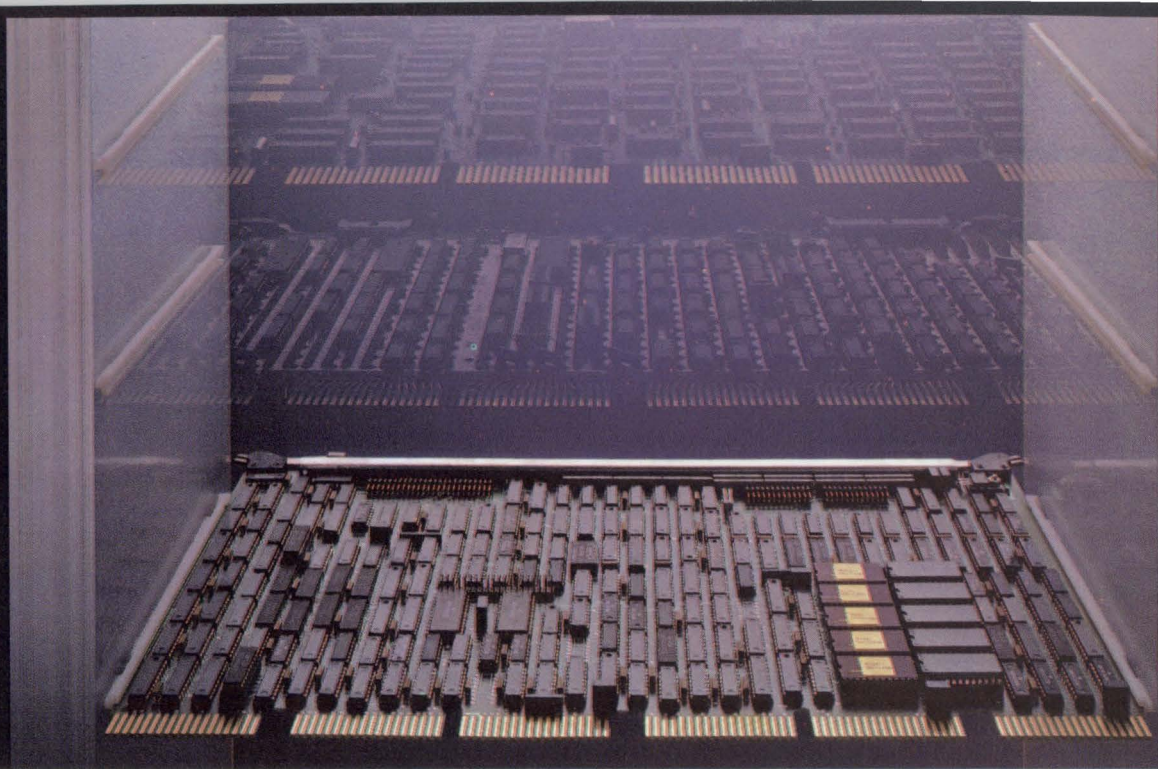












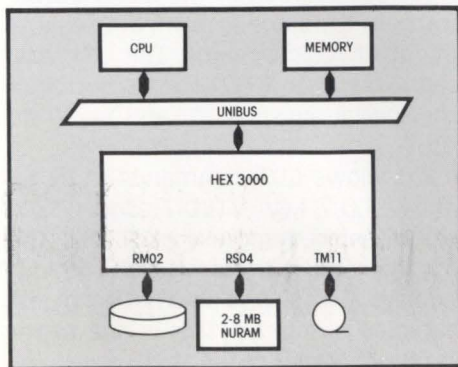
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With this issue we are pleased to present our Editor Editor, David Spencer. David will be writing a series of articles on Editors for RSTS and other operating systems.

# VTEDIT.TEC: EDT V2.0 Emulated With TECO

By David Spencer, Infinity Software Corporation

We heavy users of TECO and VTEDIT were both elated and deflated with the arrival of the new EDT version 2.0 (also known as ED2). The speed and capabilities of EDT as a screen editor made it far too attractive to pass up. Unfortunately, the keypad layout of EDT is quite different from the layout of VTEDIT. This would normally cause no problems if VTEDIT was orphaned.

However, TECO has unique editing qualities that EDT can't even come close to emulating in its current implementation. And occasionally returning to VTEDIT to perform some editing would give me a strong case of vertigo.

## A Proposed Solution

I have written a new VTEDIT macro to emulate the standard EDT. True, all the EDT keys could be redefined to emulate VTEDIT instead. But that is a short-sighted solution. By knowing the EDT keypad layout, one can move to other operating systems and still be able to instantly use the standard editor on that system; EDT.

## Intent of the Rewrite

My intent in rewriting VTEDIT was not to replace EDT, but to allow users of EDT and TECO to smoothly move between the two, with heavier emphasis on use of EDT.

I have attempted to incorporate all of the EDT keypad commands. I have, as well, also tried to mix in some of the more useful VTEDIT keys. As a result, all of the EDT tab level keys have been left in the cold, and quite a few VTEDIT commands have been left out as well.

The VTEDIT described in this article is a completely new program, and is similar to the original VTEDIT in name only. However, a deep debt of gratitude is due to the developers of the first VTEDIT. Without their code to examine, my development in TECO would not hardly be as great.

## Limitations

The VTEDIT described operates ONLY on VT100 type terminals. This was a conscious decision. The VTS2 is old technology, which, by the way I understand DEC no longer manufactures. At the risk of hurting some users, I chose to simplify the task of writing VTEDIT and supported only the VT100. (However, a VTS2 only version would be fairly easy.)

## Keys That Operate Differently

This is a list of keys that operate differently between the two editors.

1. Delete key  
Delete in ED2 deletes single characters at a time. When used in a GOLD-arg format, delete is used for editing the numeric amount. VTEDIT accepts an argument to the delete key for multiple character deletes.
2. Right and Left arrows  
EDT version 2.0 properly maintains the current position in the line. The VTEDIT macro arrow keys sometimes lose the correct position in the line when encountering tabs. The current implementation has a quick routine that could be improved. The trade-off is, of course, the extra overhead required to handle these special cases.
3. GOLD PF3  
The GOLD-PF3 key in both ED2 and VTEDIT allow entry of a search string. In addition, VTEDIT allows editing of the previous search string as in the DEC supplied version of VTEDIT. VTEDIT supports direction changing in search with the keypad "4" and "5" keys. The new VTEDIT, however, will not terminate a search argument on an arrow key, or one of the four "PF" keys.
4. Keypad 6  
In the standard version of ED2, the Keypad-6 key is used to cut a selected region to the PASTE buffer. VTEDIT cuts the selected region to a named register. To use this command, select a region. Next, hit the Keypad-6 key, and then the single letter name of your Q-register. Note VTEDIT does not prevent cutting to the Q-register "I", which houses the VTEDIT macro.
5. GOLD keypad 6  
In ED2, this combination pastes the "PASTE" buffer into the current position in the MAIN buffer. VTEDIT operates in the same fashion, but requires the single character register name. This character does not echo. Note that VTEDIT does not allow pasting of the special registers "\*" and "-".
6. GOLD Keypad 7  
EDT version 2.0 allows EDT commands to be executed via the GOLD-7 key. VTEDIT allows TECO commands to be entered and executed with this key. Note that input must be terminated with one of the keypad keys. Escape also does not echo until a second character is entered. This is due to the keypad character checking code.
7. GOLD Keypad 8  
In ED2, the GOLD-8 key is used for filling regions of text to a given margin. Because of the complexity involved, the VTEDIT macro does not implement this function. Instead, a page (in TECO, "P") command replaces this key.



8. **GOLD Keypad Enter**  
The GOLD-Keypad-Enter key is used for replace of selected region with the paste buffer in ED2. VTEDIT uses the Q-register "P" as the replace buffer, but does not assign it. In order to load the replace buffer, use one of the register loading commands on register "P".
9. **CTRL/Z**  
The CTRL/Z key in ED2 returns to line editing mode. CTRL/Z in VTEDIT returns to normal TECO editing.
10. **Word delimiters**  
In ED2, the standard word delimiter set is space, carriage-return, and form-feed. VTEDIT uses the old delimiter set of space, tab, comma, carriage-return, and line-feed.
11. **Entering Numeric Arguments**  
EDT has a twenty-two line window with the bottom two lines used for the display of numeric arguments, search strings, and EDT commands. This is a fairly efficient arrangement. VTEDIT follows the old convention of not echoing entered numeric arguments. The advantage is no screen update at all is required. The disadvantage is the argument cannot be edited or even be seen on the screen.
12. **Entering TECO Commands / Search Arguments**  
EDT uses the bottom two lines for entering search strings and commands. VTEDIT utilizes the old convention of clearing the top two lines on the screen to enter the text, and then having to refresh those lines when finished. The routine that does this is not as glorious as the one in the original VTEDIT, but it does get the job done.

### Changed Keys

This is a list of redefined EDT keys in VTEDIT.

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1. **CTRL/A**  
The EDT CTRL/Z has been redefined to the old VTEDIT CTRL/A that appends from the open file to the text buffer.
2. **CTRL/D**  
This key has been redefined in VTEDIT to be a synonym for GOLD-Keypad-2.
3. **CTRL/E**  
CTRL/E is used to execute a register. After entering CTRL/E, type the one character name of the register to execute. Note that if a numeric argument is used, it will be used for iteration and not passed to the macro.
4. **CTRL/K**  
This key is a synonym of Keypad-6.
5. **CTRL/T**  
This EDT CTRL/T key is not defined in VTEDIT.
6. **Undefined Control Keys**  
EDT version two ignores control keys that are not defined to perform any function. VTEDIT inserts any unknown control key into the buffer.

### New keys

This is a list of keys not defined in ED2.











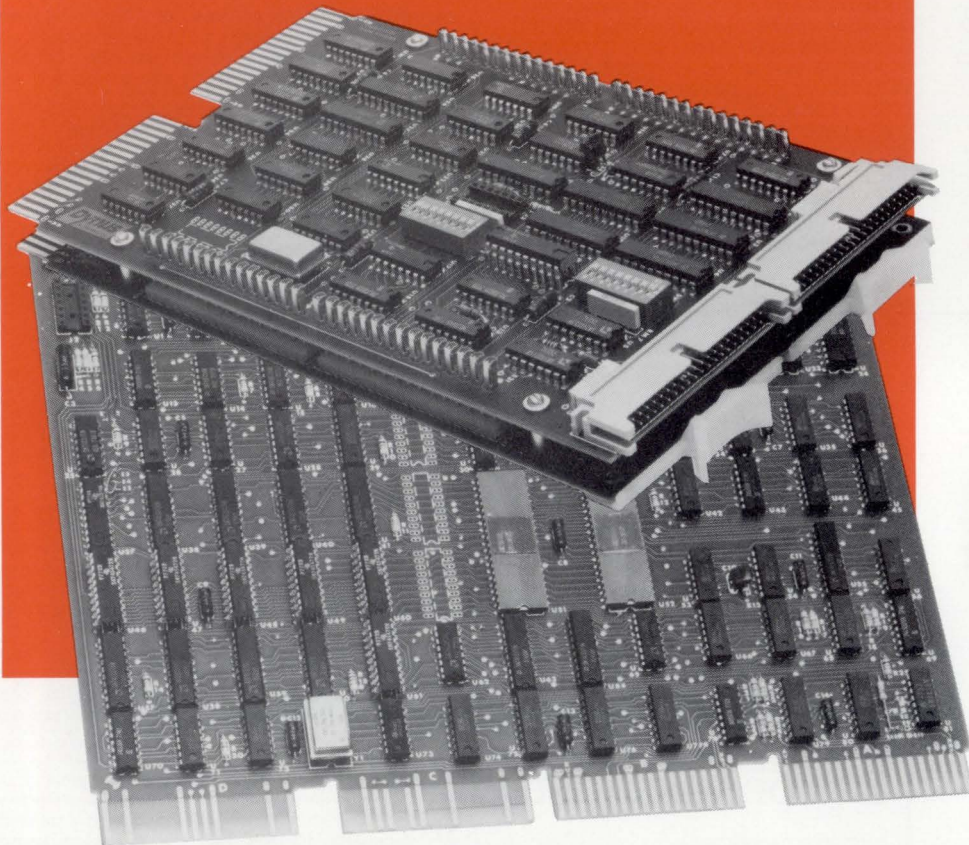








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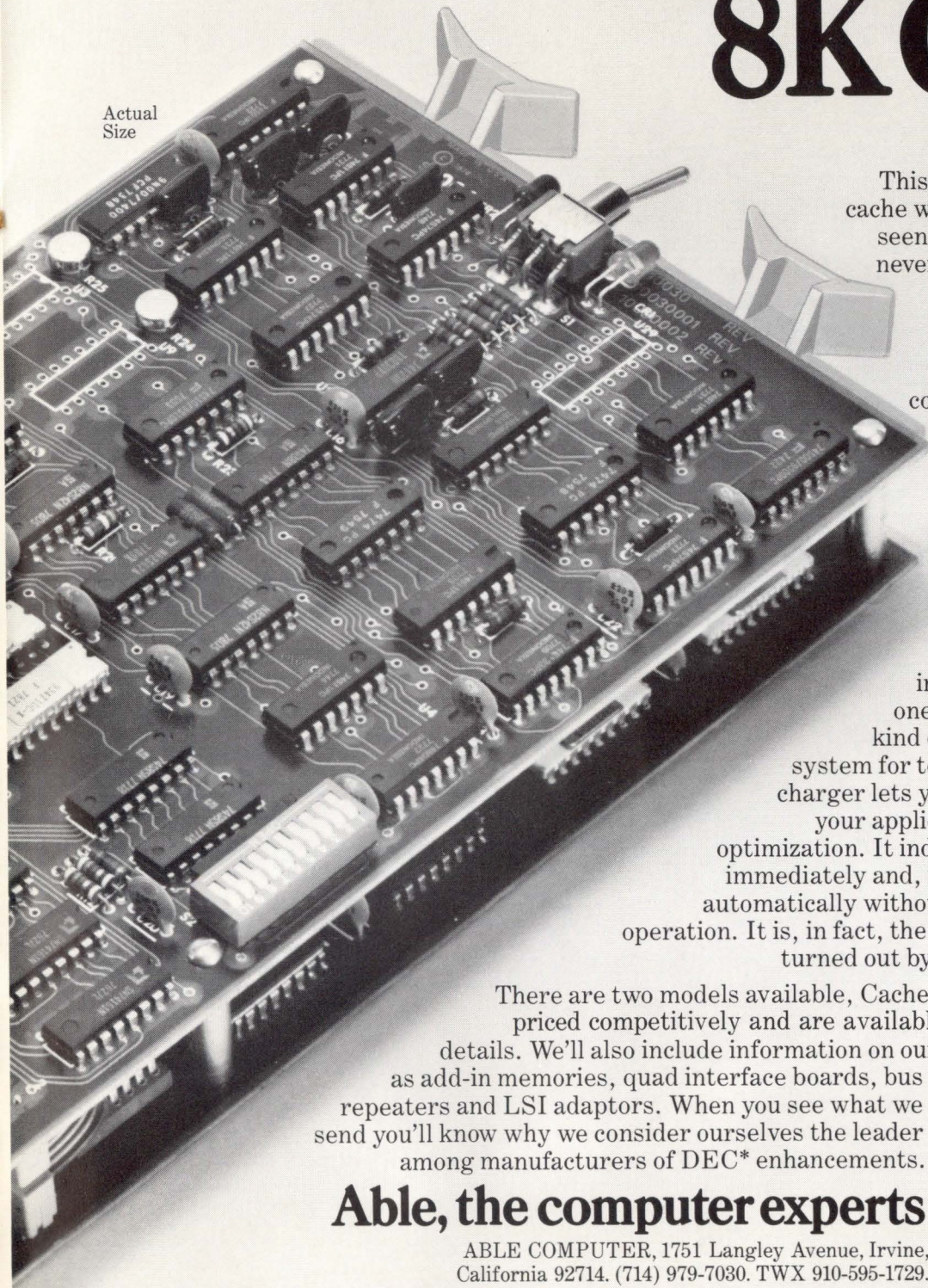
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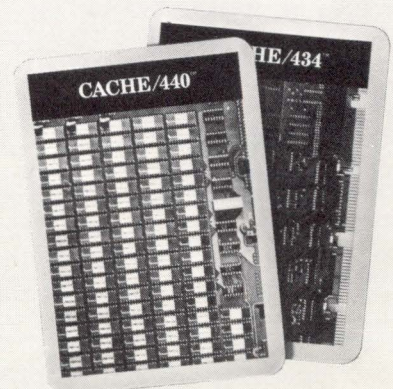
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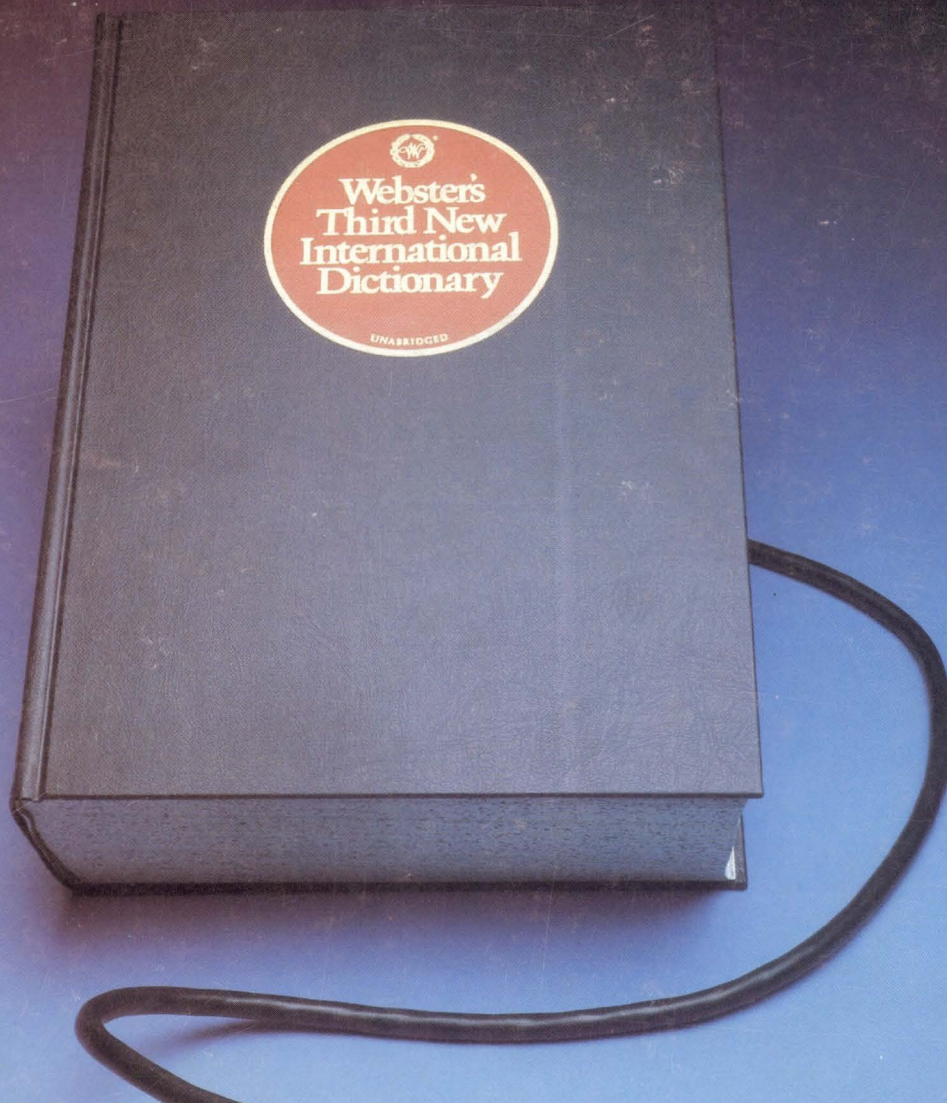
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