alpha micro SOFTWARE NOTES

V4.5 (1)

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INTRODUCTION

This is the Alpha Micro <u>Software Notes</u>, a publication designed to give technical software information to our OEM/dealer network. Please address all inquiries or suggestions concerning this newsletter to:

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NOTE: Because of our attention to the 4.5 and 4.5A releases, there was no May issue of the <u>Software Notes</u>.

First of all, we'd like to say how much we enjoyed seeing many of our dealers at NCC. We appreciate the comments and suggestions our dealers offered in person, and feel our company benefits greatly from participating in the convention.

This month's <u>Software Notes</u> is short and probably could have been combined with next month's. However, there are a few items we felt we should call to your attention promptly. First is a note concerning our System Disk copyright labels. Secondly, we alert you to added material in the <u>AMOS Monitor Calls Manual</u>, a correction in the AMOS 4.5 Software Update Documentation Packet, and a correction in <u>Change Page Packet #1 for the "AlphaPascal User's Manual"</u>. Next, we provide a patch to the DSKANA program in the SOFTWARE CHANGE NOTICES section. Finally, those of you who have sent in Software Performance Reports (SPR) since the last release will be interested in the RESOLVED SOFTWARE PERFORMANCE REPORTS section. We have listed all SPRs, by SPR number, that have been resolved for the 4.5 release. You will soon receive a follow-up letter detailing how the SPR you sent in was resolved.

SPECIAL NOTE

In the past, you may have noticed that copyright labels for the AMOS system are included in Volume 1 of the Alpha Micro Software Documentation Library. It is extremely important that you place these labels on all copies of the AMOS System Disk that you generate. Also, please inform your end users that they should put these labels on their copies of the System Disk.

DOCUMENTATION ADJUSTMENTS

The Monitor Calls Manual

In the recent rewrite of the <u>AMOS Monitor Calls Manual</u> (DWM-00100-42), we introduced PCALL and AMOS in Chapter 10. Change pages concerning these calls will be available shortly, but we want you to have the following additional information now:

> You cannot use the PCALL or AMOS monitor call to execute a program if that program locates its stack area in the user partition. For example, using PCALL or AMOS to invoke AlphaVUE does not work because VUE sets up a stack in the user partition, which wipes out information stored by either monitor call.

The AMOS 4.5 Software Update Documentation

Some of you have already received or will soon receive the AMOS 4.5 Software Update Documentation Packet. We wish to point out that our printers made an error in collation. Near the end of the "System Operator's Information" section are two documents: Using the Magnetic Tape Utility Programs and The Magnetic Tape File Backup Programs. The pages of these two documents are out of order. To correct the error, simply look at the document title and the page number at the top of each page to determine how the two documents should be collated.

Change Page Packet #1 for the "AlphaPASCAL User's Manual"

Two change bars appear on page 5-3 of this change page packet. Each of the marked lines should contain a period alone on the line. Because of a printing error, these dots did not appear in the printed copies of the change page packet. However, they are VERY important, so please draw them in. REMEMBER: Every AlphaPASCAL module file must end with a period, even though it cannot end with the END keyword.

SOFTWARE CHANGE NOTICES

This month we have a patch to the 4.5 DSKANA program and the usual patch that updates the monitor version number.

DSKANA

When you specify a switch at the end of the DSKANA command line, incorrect entry of the slash or any extra characters after the specification of the device to be analyzed causes the program to enter an endless loop, suspending the job. The following patch prevents this endless loop.

```
.DIR/H DSKANA (RET)
DSKANA PRG  9        737-727-232-054        DSKO:[1,4]
.DDT DSKANA (RET)
PROGRAM BASE IS xxxxxx
PROGRAM SIZE IS 10526
1566
1556/     CMPB @R2,#57  '        CALL PC,7776 ↓
1572/     BNE 1600               117↓
1574/     CALL 7776              BEQ 1602↓
1576/     NEG @117(SP)           JMP 136↓
1602/     BNE 1566               0
^C
.DIR MEM:DSKANA/H (RET)
DSKANA PRG    4438      046-372-325-456     MEM:
.SAVE DSKANA.PRG (RET)
ERASE DSKANA.PRG,      SAVE DSKANA.PRG
.
```

SYSTEM.MON

This patch updates the version of your monitor, indicating that you have performed the DSKANA patch shown above.

Whenever you use the SYSTAT or SYSTEM command, you see a line showing your current monitor version. If you are now running on AMOS Version 4.5, the line should show version 4.5. The following patch changes this line to show 4.5(1), indicating that you have implemented the patch in this issue of Software Notes. That means you should not enter this patch until you have entered the previous patch. This patch does not affect the operation of the monitor; it just gives you a quick way to see if all patches have been implemented.

If this patch is used with a version previous to the 4.5 monitor, the change will not show up. We assume you will update to AMOS version 4.5 before implementing any patches.

The patch is as follows:

```
    .LOG SYS: RET
    Logged into SYS:
    .DDT SYSTEM.MON RET

    PROGRAM BASE IS xxxxx
    PROGRAM SIZE IS 34174

    12/      LCC  5                    24065 ↓
    14/      0                         24491 ↓
    16/      0            ^C

    .SAVE SYSTEM.MON RET
    .DEL SYSTEM.MON RET
    .
```

RESOLVED SOFTWARE PERFORMANCE REPORTS

Following is a list of the programs that we changed for release 4.5 as a result of SPRs sent in. We also include the SPR numbers, so that those of you who sent in the SPRs can update your own files.

210DVR.DVR

SPRs: 2423, 4322, 2458

APPEND

SPRs: 2035, 2147, 2543

AlphaBASIC V4.5 (BASIC,COMPIL,RUN,RUNSML)

SPRs: 2426, 2539, 2354, 2428, 2548, 1584, 2087, 2146, 2178, 2501, 2385, 2167, 1663, 1609, 1546, 1847, 1778, 1776, 2327, 1007, 2291, 2504, 2441, 2049, 3772, 2387, 2296, 1882, 1970, 2148, 1746, 1501, 1171, 1115, 2530, 1914, 4923, 1750, 2290, 1769, 2375, 3596, 2604, 4410, 4324, 2502, 1121, 1807, 4839, 2850

CRT410

SPR: 2523

DSKANA

SPRs: 2020, 2030, 2349, 2452, 2405, 5510

DSKCPY

SPRs: 1977, 3178, 3324, 2150, 2224, 2440, 2447, 2550

DSKPAK

SPRs: 2069, 4373

GLOBAL

SPR: 2022

MACRO

SPRs: 1637, 2015, 1474

MAP

SPR: 2413

PLINK

SPR: 2372

PRINT

SPRs: 5500, 5503

SAVE

SPRs: 2230, 1712

SLEEP

SPR: 5505

SPOOL.SBR

SPRs: 1595, 2197

TAPE

SPR: 2298

TXTFMT

SPRs: 2312, 2368, 2373, 2454, 2455, 2456, 2457, 2477, 2478