

August 1990 Vol. 17, No. 7

STRIDE



TURTLE
GRAPHICS



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PUBLISHED BY
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Brush Fire

by Verlene Joyce Bonham

What would you save in a fire? Besides your pet, of course! A lot of people have had to make that decision lately.

Sunday, June 30, saw the worst residential fire in San Diego's history. It burned 50 homes and caused over \$6 million worth of damage in a 200-acre area. In Palo Alto, 15 expensive homes were spared, but damages estimated at \$4 million. A \$6,500-acre brush fire in San Luis Obispo forced the evacuation of thousands of residents. Over a 500 people fled from a massive Los Gatos, hundreds of freeways across the new Western states and Canada have destroyed over one million acres of land. As I write this, many fires are still out of control — 40 fires are being fought in Nevada alone. The Peninsula is completely covered with smoke.

One brush fire came within only a mile and a half of my home. The first knew of it

was when a handicapped woman, "Haven't you left yet?" The homes in your area are being evacuated because of the fire!

I rushed to the door and sure enough, the hills above were flaming and the air was full of smoke. As I watched, a pine tree on the ridge caught and went up like a 40-foot tree! I frantically called the forestry department. A man's voice patiently explained that it was the housing development above us (which has a similar name) and not ours that was in danger, although the fire was out of control and moving in our direction. So far, no homes had been lost, but the road into the mountains was closed.

We turned the TV to a local channel that was carrying the fire watch and started to consider the situation. What if we do have to evacuate? We'll have some warning, but obviously not a lot. The last thing we decided to take was the computer. Now that it couldn't be replaced, but because backing up the hard-disk would take some time — I don't have a tape drive yet.

Based on the fire news magazines (which are like animal chews and profits. The photos reminded me that I hadn't taken up-to-date shots of the place for the insurance company. So to sit on the safe side, I immediately took a couple of rolls of film and photographs which included a record of the major items. You can see that the smoke and sparks carried by the wind hit me, particularly concerned at this point.

I've had experience with fire before. In the early days of Stride two more Sage items, the company offices, with all the equipment prototypes, were burned down.

In that case, most of our damage was from sprinklers and water. A lot of important things were destroyed by the fire hoses, not flames. I remember standing on the sidewalk watching the blaze when the hoses shattered the window of the office with a jet of water, blasting all the papers from the tables. What a mess!

Luckily, the brush fire close to my home was brought under control late that Sunday night.

Having had the recent fire scare, I've reaffirmed my commitment to taking action before a fire occurs. You might be surprised I was at how little really needs to be done, especially to safeguard your electronic equipment.

Take photos of all your computers, modems and terminals and make a list of all important items, including modems and serial numbers. Put these in a remote location such as a safe deposit box at your bank, not in the house! Estimate how much money it would take to replace the items on your list and make sure your insurance covers that amount.

Most standard insurance policies cover the contents of a home up to a certain dollar value — generally 70% of the rest of your home. However, adding in the value of a large computer can easily jump your costs over that limit. Fortunately, some insurance companies now offer "computer riders" to cover the replacement of the hardware and some of the software. Their coverage can range anywhere from \$5,000 to \$20,000 for an additional fee cost of from \$100-\$500 a year. From our experience, this is a good buy as insurance goes.

If you're a renter, you may be better off getting coverage through one of the new specialty policies just for computers. They are advertised in the trade magazines and also run about \$10 per year per \$1,500 worth of equipment.

It's also a good idea to keep a copy of your important software at another site. Just four weeks after the Stride/Sage fire, the company was still able to repair our first computer along with working systems because copies of the software had been safe at home. Talk it from someone who's been there. For the money, this is one of the most important safeguards you can have.

Once you're done all the, well, if a fire occurs, the only thing left to do is **\$6.99**. Your software can be rewritten if you save yours!

My sympathies are with the hundreds of people made homeless by fires this summer. Yet I also wonder how many also lost their home computers? And I wonder how many were "lucky" enough to be able to replace their equipment and data at minimal expense. □



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In Stride is a monthly publication of Stride Micro, subscriptions are \$10 for one year, \$24 internationally. Purchase of a Stride computer includes one year subscription upon receipt. Members of a fully computerized news organization can have a complimentary rate of \$4 per copy, no money back. Requests for subscriptions, reprint permission, and back issue orders should be sent to the Editor, in Stride.

Send "Performance By Design" and 1000 to the Editors of Stride Micro.

Postmaster: Change of address please should be sent to:

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Stride Micro
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P.O. Box 50010
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Z80 Software On The 68000

To encourage the transition to the powerful 68000 16-bit hardware, a Z80 and CP/M-86 emulator bridges the software gap. A pure software simulation provides a complete virtual Z80 CPU under the CP/M 2.2 operating system.

By Gene Hildebrandt and Harlan Thies

The micro revolution has moved from the 8-bit to the 16-bit microprocessor generation. In the 8-bit world, the Z80 has long been the microprocessor with the biggest market share. Its instruction set is also upward compatible with the later and very popular 8086/8088 microprocessors. Literally millions of microprocessors of this family are in use in a majority of them running an operating system from Digital Research, CP/M version 2.2. CP/M became so widespread on Z80 systems that it has become the de facto standard operating system for that chip.

A large and impressive software library of tools and applications grew around the Z80 and CP/M environment. Over the years, huge investments were spent in CP/M standard software, the development of specific applications and the training of users. The bugs in the software were worked out, the routines stabilized, and users became entrenched in specific features and programs.

As the demand for software flexibility grew, the limits of the 8-bit processor generation, especially the 64K addressing range, became more apparent. The first 16-bit microprocessor to be introduced, the Intel 8086, was quickly pushed into the market. Its instruction set and register structure were designed as an extension of the 8080/8088, allowing existing programs to transfer easily to the 8086. A 64K addressing range was no longer a problem, but a lack of orthogonality and addressing capability in the architecture remained.

Other microprocessor developers, such as Motorola, did not insist on upward compatibility and started introducing new architectural features in their 16-bit generation CPUs. The Motorola 68000 even though released slightly later, is now established as an alternative to the 8086, especially for large applications.

Today, the 16-bit micro market is largely divided between the two designs: the con-

ventional 8086 with a large software base versus the advanced 68000 with less. In contrast to the 8-bit generation, there has been no clearly established 16-bit environment encompassing both a standard microprocessor and operating system. The lack of a clear direction in future micro trends has created uncertainty for many customers who hesitate to invest in new hardware and software that may become prematurely obsolete.

A Bridge Between Z80 And 68000

Users concerned with the 8-bit Z80 world can now safely step up to the 16-bit generation with an innovative new tool from MICROLINE of Munich. The CP/M-Z80 Emulator allows the entire range of CP/M 2.2 software to run on 68000 micro with the CP/M-86 operating system. Using the CP/M-Z80 Emulator results in various advantages:

- The need for software tools and applications not yet available for CP/M-86 can be filled by CP/M 2.2 programs. Thus, the well known and reliable text-processing packages, spreadsheets, compilers, cross-assemblers, compilers, etc., become immediately useful.
- Investment in existing custom software is no net cost or wasted, as such software also makes the transition easy.
- Investments in training are neither lost nor wasted.
- The advantages of faster, more modern hardware are available even to the Z80 software.
- A 68000 system with CP/M-86 can serve as a Z80 software development system without the necessity of keeping 8-bit hardware.

All CP/M 2.2 compatible programs will run without restrictions. For example, here are a few of the favorites:

WORDSTAR, MIBASIC, DEBUG II,
MULTIPLAN, PL II-80, 805 II,
TURBO PASCAL, PASCAL III+
MACRO-80, LINK-80, DDT, MSUB,
SUBMIT, Z80 D2, MOVEIT,
BRODMATT, and ZD8K.

CP/M-68K

Using the Emulator

The CP/M-280 Emulator runs without adaptation on any 80000 computer with the CP/M-68K operating system, versions 1.1 or 1.2 and at least 38K bytes of user memory (UPM). Usage of the Emulator is very simple: entering the command **CP/M-280** *ioctl* starts the Emulator. A complete CP/M 2.2 system with Z80-CPU is delivered. Even an experienced CP/M user will find to notice that the Z80-CPU not a Z80, is controlling the system.

Fast Z80 Emulation

The emulation of a CPU in software is time-consuming. Each operation of the virtual CPU is interpreted by a short code sequence of the emulating CPU. This emulated CPU's architecture has a completely alien command set found on the hardware CPU. Then emulation becomes especially difficult and slow. For example, it is quite complicated for the 80000-CPU to generate the Z80's Half-Carry-Flag and to compensate for the reverse order of the bytes in a word. However, the CP/M-280 Emulator is written completely in assembly language and gains its high speed by optimally using the large register file of the 80000-CPU and table driven interpretation. Under the CP/M-280 Emulator, an average CP/M-80 program executes with the speed of a 2 MHz Z80-CPU on a 8 MHz 80000 system. In practice, the execution speed varies for different programs.

An important performance factor to consider is the frequency of I/O access. The following measurements for the execution rate ratio between the virtual CPU and Z80 hardware have been taken:

Extreme values : 0.6 and 9
Average : 3.0

Handling Special I/O

To allow access to 80000 hardware I/O ports by Z80 I/O op codes, a special interface has been provided. With this interface, the user may build a custom driver to map Z80 port addresses to 80000 I/O routines. If such a driver module is present, it is loaded automatically by the Emulator. Communication software can utilize these I/O capabilities to access modems and other data links. This enables the transport of existing CP/M 2.2 software to the 80000 system.

Integrated CP/M-80

The CP/M-280 Emulator includes a specially designed operating system *apex* for con-

trolling CP/M-80. The user interface corresponds to that of standard CP/M 2.2 with some user friendly extensions and improvements.

An additional EXOT command provides a means of returning to CP/M-68K. All physical I/O devices implemented under CP/M-68K (terminal, printer and other interfaces) and all background storage devices (floppy disk drives, hard disks, tape streams and RAID disks) are accessible from the emulated CP/M-80. An automatic configuration algorithm installs all these devices without user intervention. This improves transparency between CP/M-68K and the emulated CP/M-80. All files can be read and written under both systems.

Commodore implementation of the CP/M-80 system provides a large user memory (UPM) of 50K bytes. All systems which are defined in CP/M-80 are fully implemented in the Emulator.

Professional Tool

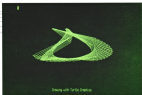
The CP/M-280 Emulator is used by software professionals on many different CP/M-68K systems. The Emulator is a proven software product and is ready for immediate delivery. A free demo disk is available for evaluation without risk or obligation. Users can be supplied either in 5-inch disks or 8-inch single density format. Versions of the CP/M-280 Emulator for OS-9/68K and iCSD systems are under development. □

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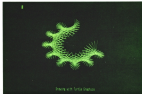
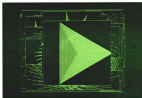


280

68000



Drawing with Turtle Graphics



Drawing with Turtle Graphics



Turtlegraphics On

Since computers have always performed like "turtles" among the tortoises, and the new graphics we've been dragging about for the last couple of months is definitely tortoise. However, the low-level and Module-2 routines supplied by Stride are not as user-friendly as Turtlegraphics.

For example, one of the more popular features of the Apple II Pascal system has been the Turtlegraphics routines. This simple set of commands has been part of the UCSD p-System and its derivatives (such as Apple II Pascal) from the early days of the operating system. The idea came originally from the LOGO language which uses graphics as a tool to teach programming. Later, the concepts became integrated in many software applications and systems.

Turtlegraphics is now available for Stride 400 Series machines. The Stride graphics option is a circuit board that works with the standard Stride terminal. The option provides a set of assembly code and Module-2 routines that drive the hardware. Turtlegraphics is distributed with those routines on the graphics software disk. Also included is a demo that draws patterns showing what can be accomplished with the routines. The Stride Graphics Release Notes and p-System Program Development Reference Manual describe how to install and program Turtlegraphics.

It really is one of the more convenient ways to draw a small chart or figure from program control. Pascal users who are not oriented toward Module-2 now have an interface that should fit most of their needs. Turtlegraphics can also be called from the p-System FORTRAN and BASIC languages.

The Turtlegraphics routines can be used to control the background of the screen, draw figures, alter old figures and display figures using viewport and scaling. It will also save figures in disk files and retrieve them.

Why A Turtle?

In the original LOGO routines, a turtle (they moved about the screen drawing lines. Experienced users consider the "turtle" an invisible creature that draws a straight line (or circle) when given a command to "move" to the screen.

Each figure drawn is considered a set of lines. The turtle can move in a straight line (routine **Move**) to a particular point on the screen (**MoveTo**) and change directions. Direction changes can either be relative to the current direction (**Turn**) or specify a particular direction (**TurnTo**).

The location of the turtle is defined by three functions: **Turtle . X**, **Turtle . Y**, and **Turtle . Angle**.

The 400 Series

In the 400 Series graphics implementation is monochromatic, only the black and white colors are available for the **Pen** and **Color** routines. Calling another color will result in an error.

Other routines such as **Fillarea**, **Background**, **Scaling** and **Figure** routines provide all the commands necessary to do elaborate drawings.

The Turtle Wins!

The 400 Series implementation of Turtlegraphics is quite fast. Even the solid-looking picture, shown here, took only a couple of seconds to draw. The speed does not match that of displays done through the Bitblt-2 routines or through direct access to the 68000 assembly code routines in the 400 Series graphics package. Turtlegraphics uses nearly the same low-level line drawing routines but uses real number calculations instead of integers. This extra overhead causes it to be a bit slower. However, compared to the performance of most other Turtlegraphics implementations, 400's version beats each claim that the proverbial turtle has a faster.

Footnote

Once you have a figure drawn to your satisfaction, you can store it in a **Footnote**. New figures can be written to a file and old figures restored for modification. More than one figure can exist in a Footnote, which keeps an index of the figures. Read, write, total and store routines manage the access of figures from the Footnote.

Create Your Own Font

It is also possible to design character fonts with Turtlegraphics. The characters are not drawn very quickly but are useful where special effects or large letters are desired. A font containing a standard ASCII character set defined by an 8 x 8 pixel matrix is shipped with the Turtlegraphics system.

A Good General Interface

Overall, Turtlegraphics is an easy-to-use way to include illustrations in your programs. The speed and performance of the routines on 400 Series graphics makes it a viable choice for many applications. And like all graphics systems, the power of drawing your own pictures is always, like of fun. □



Moses, the big fella on the cover, is a 40-year-old desert tortoise, one of the few members of this threatened species in captivity.

Moses and a large family of other turtles, including 2-foot box turtles (shown above) and gulf coast turtles, live with Carl

Sandeler who also has a 2-foot alligator (the gator has his own room).

Carl prints a small reptile and turtle newsletter and occasionally has extra turtles for sale. Carl and Moses can be reached at 6666 Pearl Dr., Reno, NV 89502. (702) 673-3261. □

Data Base Applications And Genie 3.0

by J. William Claypool

In 1982, Advanced Data Institute, Inc. (ADI), a Sacramento, California based software company, released a new relational data base management system called ALADIN. The release, the result of more than ten years of research, marked great advances in mainframe programs with ALADIN's speed, ease of use, compactness and ability to integrate with other software packages. Later that year, an interface called Program Genie was added to give programmers the ability to access ALADIN data bases through a Pascal program. In 1983, ADI began distribution of both products on the Sage II and later, on the Sage IV.

In 1984, ADI's research team began the development of a new version of ALADIN and Program Genie. The initial release of these new products began with the announcement of Genie 3.0 to be shipped early in the second quarter of this year. Preview of the new product was presented at State Fair in Reno, Nevada this past February.

The ALADIN DBMS

To understand the functions and concepts of Genie, one must first understand the features of ALADIN and the data base methods used. ALADIN is a general, integrated data base manager which provides such functions as Data Entry and Updating, Report Generation and Query, along with many other features.

Up to 32 files may be specified in a single data base with up to 320 fields in each file, for a maximum of 912 fields in a single data base. Multiple key fields may be specified for each file with a total of 256 keys per file and a combined maximum of 1024 keys in a single data base. Data is presented to the user through the user-oriented Forms or Screen Masks. The forms are defined by the user's own specifications. The forms are also used when defining reports, queries and calculations using ALADIN's interactive definition editor.

By itself, ALADIN provides a data base management system with easy-to-use functions, user-friendly Screen Forms and a fast, efficient data base system.

But can a single product ever provide every feature to every user? Many experts

believe not. If one could meet programmers who could be put off a job. Many applications require such sophisticated tasks to be performed that products which provide generic functions simply cannot meet the needs without becoming large, complex products which are difficult, if not impossible to use.

Therefore, the next step is to integrate a high-level programming interface to a sophisticated data base system which can provide the tools for developing such applications with a minimum of effort.

Genie Features

The original Program Genie provided a large set of features which could be used to develop most data-base-oriented applications. It provided Data Record I/O and Screen Form I/O, along with various screen and utility functions at a fairly high level. Now, with the age of expanding multiuser and network systems, record locking must be provided along with additional tools to enhance structured, efficient program development. With the introduction of Genie 3.0, these goals have begun to be met.

So what to Genie and where does it fit in application design and development? As stated above, Genie provides high-level access to data base functions through a programming interface. These functions are provided in a series of UCSD Pascal (P) files. The interface provides the following:

- Data Record/Data File I/O
- Multiuser Locking and Collision Prevention
- Screen Form I/O
- Replicated Keyboard and Screen I/O
- Data Conversions
- Assorted Utilities

Genie does not provide relational facilities. It works just below this level. Genie views a data base as a collection of Data Files, each having defined key and non-key fields and their associated Screen Forms. No relationships are defined between files and files. However, relational (and non-relational) applications can be built on top of the structure. ALADIN is a good example. Genie is used as the kernel of the ALADIN system. Relationships between files are not used by the Genie but are enforced and implemented by ALADIN

at a high level. The lack of relational features at the Genie level is not a limitation and may fit some situations which would be present in a truly relational system.

Functions provided by Genie are quite sophisticated but remain easy to use. For example, to insert records into a data base, simply use:

```
MultiRecord (...);
```

Data Entry is easily programmed with:

```
WRITE MultiRecord (...); DO  
MultiRecord (...);
```

Searching for records is provided with routines such as:

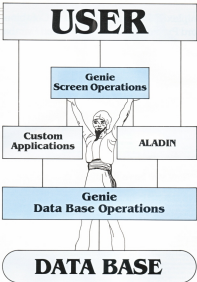
```
MultiRecord (...); and MultiRecordRecord (...);
```

Full multiuser protection is also provided at the record, file and data base level with both synchronous and asynchronous locks. A complete set of data conversion and comparison routines are provided for all ALADIN data types.

What can all of this be used for? Genie supplies most database applications quickly and efficiently. Anything from simple order entry to inventory and accounting systems can be developed easily as well as sophisticated statistical applications. Coupled with the speed of the Sbc's computers, complete MIS systems can be programmed to suit individual office needs.

What will ADI offer in the future? Additional integrated functions provide means for the Genie along with additional multiuser access methods. Of course, all of this is subject to the wishes of ALADIN 3.0 which will encompass most of the features desired over the past two years by Sbc's I Sage users. The addition of a sophisticated transaction language to be incorporated as a module into ALADIN is also under development and may be ready for the first release of ALADIN 3.0. No shipping date has been stated as yet, but announcements should be made within the next few months. □

J. William Claypool is Director of Engineering of Advanced Data Institute, Inc. ADI's training for Sbc users is 800.



Structure of the ALADIN/Genie System

Uniplex II Integrated Software Combines Word Processing, Spreadsheet and Database for UNIX Users



Now you have the freedom to choose...

That's right, now that you can run UNIX on Slide More's the question becomes - which software?

Uniplex II is your answer. It is a complete integrated software system for UNIX on the Slide. And freedom of choice is what it is about.

You can store your information and manage it under Uniplex II's powerful database. Then you can choose how to manipulate it. You can, for example, pull a file from the database, work on it in the spreadsheet and then consign it to Uniplex II's word processor for final formatting and printing.

Or you can take a word processed file and manipulate it under the database. Indeed with Uniplex II any file can be processed and freely interchanged with the components of the system - that's real freedom to choose!

Uniplex II components include a word processor as sophisticated as any stand-

alone available. All the facilities are there including advanced features such as spelling checking and tabs.

The spreadsheet component runs with the best. With over 5000 columns and 100 rows you're as likely to run out of space as of time. All the commands and facilities you would expect in a high level product are there plus embedded database and UNIX calls. You even get an interactive record system.

The Uniplex II database is a sophisticated relational DBM designed with all the leading edge techniques. Packed with power, the DBM allows files accessed only by UNIX limitations and features the comprehensive SQL query language. System builders will be delighted with its ability to meet their existing needs.

Other components in Uniplex II include your control over your computer. There is a Menu System for executing

UNIX commands, a Screen Editor, a Print Spooler for controlling shared printers and a full featured communications facility.

Combining all these into one integrated product, written entirely in 'C', means real power for your installation. And your freedom of choice comes from Uniplex II's unique design.

Control command functionality over all components means one product to learn instead of many. Piping your information through any component gives you the freedom to decide how to manipulate it.

To choose Uniplex II the one integrated product solution to your office automation under UNIX.

Uniplex II is freedom of choice.



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New

A New 440!

Announcing Better Upgrade Options

The 440 system has been the most popular configuration in Bröde's family of products. The fact that this uniquely small machine can offer up to 32M bytes of hard disk and 8M bytes of RAM has attracted a wide variety of users. That's the high-end floor. Bröde is offering a new low-end 440 configuration: a floppy-based 440 for only \$2,895 (street).

This new machine is essentially a 420 in a 440 box. The 420 still has an advantage because of its small, almost portable size, but the new 440 can be upgraded with any of the standard 440 options, the most likely being a hard disk. The low-end 440 does

not replace the 420; it is simply a new product addition.

The basic 440 includes the 65 watt power supply, the 480 series CPU board with four serial ports, an optional pair (2M) bytes of RAM (battery-backed for the CMOS RAM) and real time clock, a larger, quarter (or half) size floppy disk drive. The photo above shows the interior of the 440 floppy-based system. Note the slide opening for the disk drive filled with a small lock plate to

prevent proper air movement through the box and for cosmetic reasons. For the same reason, a smallizing file in the connector position for the serial ports of the Winchester board.

This basic system can be ordered with up to 2M bytes of RAM, a second floppy drive, graphics, 12 MHz clock and an FPU.

Graphics Upgrade

The graphics package shown at middle left consists of the graphics circuit board, the cables, the bezelcase with cutouts for the graphics connectors and mounting hardware. The graphics card will always occupy the third card position in a 440, regardless of whether a Winchester board is installed or not.

Hard Disk Upgrade

The third photo shows the parts needed to upgrade a 440 to a hard disk system. In this case a 12M byte drive. The 65 watt power supply is replaced with the larger 140 watt supply. New cables and mounts for the harddisk are needed. The Winchester board is mounted in the second card position. A three position (3M) backplane connects the CPU board and the Winchester board. Other options, such as more memory, a tape drive, graphics, etc. can also be installed at this time.

Upgrade Policy

The Bröde Authorized Service Centers can very quickly upgrade a system for you. Upgrade pricing on the new 440 follows Bröde's standard policy. All upgrades will be calculated on the difference between current retail pricing of the two products plus a \$200 upgrade fee. The 420 is not upgradeable to a 440. However, each family member can accommodate a large selection of the features of the 440 series.

The new floppy-based 440 greatly increases the low-end market options available to Bröde users and creates a more flexible product line to meet varying processing needs. □



Customer Service

How To Ship A Board

It is important to pack the equipment carefully when shipping a board to the factory. First, wrap it in aluminum foil. Do not put popcorn foam around the chips. This may cause static damage. Then wrap the board in paper and separate the board between two layers of cardboard. The cardboard should be bigger than the board to protect edges and corners. Place in a box with about 2" of padding on all sides. Popcorn foam is OK here. UPS will not insure anything with less than 2" of padding.

Include in the box a complete note identifying you're returning it to and your complete address and phone number. For ANY item shipped to SMDs, you must get an RMA (Return Material Authorization) from TechSourceSupport before sending it in. The RMA number should be stated on your note. The RMA must also be on the OUTSIDE of the box. Without the RMA number, the box will not be accepted.

RMA/COS SORT Program

Before running SORT, you must run ADDSYM on each of the 3+ terminators. The user left out of the documentation if SORT will does not work, then important RMA/COS patches # 30,004 and 30,005.

Idle & DMA Terminations

On some releases of IDS and DMA, the Carrier Detect line floats and may send an erroneous hang-up signal which will log yourself. The current release of both operating systems has extra software which fixed the problem.

On other releases, to work around the problem, you must physically terminate the line on your terminal or terminal emulator if you have this problem call your dealer for help.

Also, if you have a long cable which is unterminated (unterminated to a terminal), you should disconnect it at the computer end. In some cases, noise on the cable will look like high speed continuous data interrupts to the system and will cause the system to stop dead. One work-around is to only enable logins on physical attached to terminals.

Modem Cables

To connect your modem to a serial port for use with DMA protocols, the cable to pin 4 of the modem connector (modem-to-modem) to pin 55 (Data) will treat that line as Data Terminal Ready (DTR), which will allow DMA to hang-up the phone. It will also prevent the phone from being answered when no logs are enabled on that port. For this to work properly on Hayes modems, the DTR configuration switch should be set for

computer control not ALWAYS-ON which is the default.

Autobaud Terminal Setup

Autobaud is the routine that figures out your terminal set up when you hit full on your 486 Series machine. For example, if your terminal is set for 19200 baud and the Scribe is set for 38400 baud, then the status message will not display properly on the screen. Autobaud will correct the baud setting if you follow these steps.

Wait a minute to make sure the computer is in an idle state. Then turn the power to your terminal off. This clears the terminal in case it "locked up" from whatever occurred before. Wait the space key down and RESET the Scribe. If the Scribe is too far away from the terminal or you is do both at the same time, place a book on the space bar to hold it down. Then go to the Scribe and RESET it. Autobaud will see the space coming in and try to figure out the baudrate and other communication bits, if it is successful, the screen will display **Type a 1**. Press the question mark key. (Remove the book first). You should see the > prompt sign for the Scribe Debugger. If you need the Scribe again, the complete startup message should display properly.

Once done, Autobaud never needs to be done unless you change your terminal set, logs or BIOS setting.

USUS Fall Meeting

USUS is a non-profit organization of programmers, developers and users working with the y-System and its derivatives. The group meets twice yearly. The USUS Fall National Meeting will be October 26-27, 1995 and will be held at the Omni International in Baltimore's inner harbor. All interested parties, members and non-members, are welcome to attend.

The inner harbor is the centerpiece of a revitalized inner city, with the magnificent glass-enclosed Harbor Place containing over 140 shops and restaurants as its centerpiece. Numerous sites and attractions are convenient to the hotel as well as variety of activities. In addition harbor residents leave from the inner harbor around the clock.

The theme of the meeting will be "A Workshop on the USUS y-System Family" with planned sessions on communications, data base design, text processing, and others. There will also be meetings of a large number of "Special Interest Groups" or SIGs. The Scribe IIager SIG might be of interest to Scribe users.

The USUS software library, which con-

tains useful programs and games, will be available to USUS members for copying volumes. The cost will be per volume plus the cost of media. You may supply your own disks, or purchase disks (at cost) at the registration desk. There will be equipment available to copy the library in Apple II, Scribe/Sage and IBM PC formats, and hopefully, TI 99/4A and Macintosh disk formats also.

The meeting will also be an opportunity to conduct the business of USUS.

The national meeting will be hosted by the USUS Washington/Maryland/Virginia local users' group, or LUJ as it is affectionately known.

The Omni is a first class hotel and will provide a pleasant environment for the meeting. Special rooms rates have been arranged at \$64 per night for singles and \$90.00 night for doubles. When you call for reservations, (301) 702-7100, you must state you are with USUS to get the special rate.

Current USUS members should receive detailed registration material by late August.

Registration fees will be \$25 in advance and \$35 at the door. Students may register in advance for \$20. If you have any questions about the meeting or joining USUS please contact Carl Van Dyke at USUS (board member and officer) at

USUS Fall Meeting Registration
P.O. Box 3277
Silver Spring, MD 20908
Tel: (301) 320-2781 days
or (301) 320-0144 evenings

Please do not call after 9:30pm eastern time.

As always, sponsors are needed. If you would like to sponsor a particular topic, or would like to suggest someone as a speaker, please contact Carl. Also, companies or individuals are needed to sponsor morning and afternoon coffee breaks. Each break costs \$1.50 and may be jointly sponsored as well.

I can never find a copy of my disk partition assignment when I need it, but there are any way to read it from the disk?

Having a backup of your **MBINFO.TEXT** file is important if you use **FORMAT/MBINFO.TEXT** on a same earlier release. However, if you lose it, you can recreate it fairly easily. **Type X INFORMAT**. Do careful use to reformat your drive. Select the option that lets you save it to a separate map. When it is displayed, type **=**. Then type in the name of the file (or printer) and finally, type **=**. All of the information on the screen will now go to the file. **Type A-C=O** until you are back at the command line. Now you can edit or print the file (if necessary). Note that it will have to be changed a bit to look like a **MBINFO.TEXT** file. See also the question on how to list a configuration.

How can I make a listing of my system configuration?

MULTI, **LTS**, and **WORKBIT** all use the same commands to print a screen, or save a screen to a file. Run the program and bring up the display you want to print. At any of the prompts you can type an **=**. Answer the question which appears with **MINIFILE**. It is given in the name of a file. Then type **=**. The screen will be printed or written to the file. Move to the next screen and type another slash to print it. To change files, type another **=**. When you leave the program, any open files will be closed for you. Or using these two commands, you can selectively dump any of the various configuration screens.

There are so many UNIX versions. Can you help me keep them straight?

Concentrate first on learning about the three main versions: **Version 1**, **4.2BSD** and

System 3. They were developed in about that order, although 4.2BSD is still being developed parallel to **System 3**. Note that **System 3** is a later release than **Version 1**. Just beware things more interesting there will soon be 4.2BSD and **System 3** releases.

Features within the versions differ quite a bit. The same version may differ slightly according to the implementation, which is generally described by the name of the CPU. Strata's UNIX is the **Mitelcore 86000 (System 3/86)** implementation, which differs only slightly from, for example, a **DIG 80486** implementation.

What is a "script" file in the p-System?

If you have a series of commands that you do over and over again, for example, changing your printer settings back and forth, then a script file comes in handy. It's just a file containing all of the steps you would normally take to do the job. By using special commands, called **Executable commands**, the system will take its instructions from the script file instead of the keyboard. Refer to the chapters on the **Monitor** and **Execution** commands in the **4.2 User's Manual**.

I'm looking for a FORTRAN to C translator under UNIX. Do you know of any?

Try **Reptech Systems Inc.**, Dept. AG-560, 47th Avenue, New York, NY 10011. Contact Jim Flynn at (212) 867-6255. Strata has no experience with this product, but you can check it out. □



Kate Harzer

Rhys Meyering

It's no wonder that after only three months, Kate Harzer was promoted from editorial assistant to public relations. Just take a look at her accomplishments. She was graduated from the University of Pennsylvania, after just 10 1/2 years, with a dual degree in journalism and political science. Not only that, but she received her degree with High Distinction.

Inevitably enough, Kate is also the author of *Off the Clock*, which circulated every second hour from Penn to her home in Elko (204 miles one way) where she also is reported for *The Daily Free Press*. She did her commuting by bus, which took six hours. At least it gave her time to do her stamping.

Now that she lives in Reno and no longer has the hassle of school for 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. job at 6:30, most seem to be a vacation. Having some free time means that now she can do whatever she likes of her hobbies, such as newspaper, swimming, reading and attending 1940s, 1950s and 1960s.

When Strata hired Rhys Meyering (promoted to managing as director of Latin American sales, they couldn't have picked a more experienced man for the job in April, Rhys and his wife, Barbara, moved to Reno from San Jose where he was the vice president of marketing and sales for *Logo Systems*. Before that, he gained plenty of experience working for *ITT*, *North Star Computers and Guide*. That's a lot of experience tucked under just one man's belt. Already, Rhys has been promoted to vice president of sales at *Logo*.

Meyering was graduated from Cal-Berkeley with a degree in journalism and English. While there, Rhys had had plenty of opportunities to practice one of his favorite hobbies - creative writing. Rhys also enjoys playing classical piano and designing layouts for model railroads.

Meyering's philosophy for successful business is one that he stresses quite heavily. As he explains, "The entire key to basic success relates to support. In order to get, you have to give. If you want responsive customers, you must provide strong support." Sounds like good advice to me! □

A CPM E-Mail Group

The CP-86G invites all Strata Sage CP-86G users to share in our electronic mail bulletin board! You can sign up by buying a **CompuServe 48**, about \$20, at any Radio Shack store. You'll need a modem, of course. Once on-line, just **"GO PCS-41"** and CP-86G will sign you in. Our group has no fees, dues or newsletters. The message board is a handy tool for all of questions, answers and

also philosophy. A library of software is available. Strata also provides support through their account # **PS86315** and has become active on the CP-86G board. Current time charges on **CompuServe** are only \$8.00 per hour. This is truly an inexpensive way to talk to Strata and get the best of the CPM community. The link forward to meeting you - **Cherry Strata, CP-86G SYSOP**. □

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