


11-13-1975

User Services External Report

Lehigh University

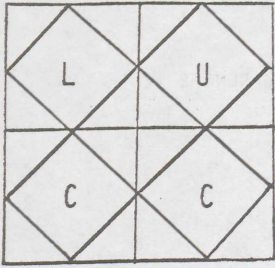
Follow this and additional works at: <http://preserve.lehigh.edu/lts-computing-center-newsletter>

 Part of the [Computer Sciences Commons](#), and the [Library and Information Science Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Lehigh University, "User Services External Report" (1975). *Computing Center Newsletter*. 5.
<http://preserve.lehigh.edu/lts-computing-center-newsletter/5>

This Newsletter is brought to you for free and open access by the LTS Publications at Lehigh Preserve. It has been accepted for inclusion in Computing Center Newsletter by an authorized administrator of Lehigh Preserve. For more information, please contact preserve@lehigh.edu.



USER SERVICES EXTERNAL REPORT

LEHIGH UNIVERSITY COMPUTING CENTER

CDC 6400 (CM65K, ECS125K, SCOPE 3.4.3), VARIAN 620/f

November 13, 1975

Interactive Computing Labs

The University currently supports three interactive computing laboratories on campus, housing a total of nineteen public terminals. The Whitaker Lab site features five Hazeltine 2000 CRT's and two hard copy printers which are shared among the terminals. At Christmas-Saucon there are two Hazeltine 2000's, three DEC-Writer II's, and one ASR-33 Teletype. The newest of the interactive sites, in Drown Hall, supports eight Hazeltine 2000's and two shared printers. The Drown Hall site, opened in September, was funded by a grant to the College of Business and Economics from Arthur Andersen & Co.

All public terminals on campus, with the exception of the ASR-33 Teletype, operate at a speed of thirty characters per second. Efficient use of existing telephone lines and computer ports was achieved through time-division multiplexing, and the use of custom designed high speed full-duplex modems.

From the Librarian

New Programs

- COBRW - Free Form Input/Output for COBOL

COBRW provides the COBOL user with extended input/output capabilities which may be used to replace or augment the COBOL intrinsic I/O functions. Designed primarily to enable COBOL to be used for interactive programs, COBRW contains functions which perform line input, delimited free-form input, and line output. (I30003)

Modified Programs

- SENATOR - Interactive Text Editor

SENATOR Version 2 is now available on the permanent file SENATOR. An earlier version of SENATOR (Version 1.65) is available on the permanent file SENPAST.

Version 2 of SENATOR is the result of a complete rewrite of Version 1. Included are several syntax changes, the addition of several commands, and many new features.

INTERCOM users should note that the Users Subcommittee has approved the installation of SENATOR as the Computing Center's sole, supported text editor. Tentative plans are to drop support of EDITOR, PREFOR, and PREBAS on July 1, 1976. EDITOR, PREFOR, and PREBAS users are urged to familiarize themselves with the use of SENATOR in the coming months, and thus minimize the effects of the July 1 changeover. (J90045)

- PAGES - SCOPE Control Card

The system has been modified such that the PAGES control card, with related page count and format suppression, is now effective at all remote batch terminals; e.g., the Taylor Remote Batch Site.

- INDXSEQ - Index Sequential

INDXSEQ is now RUN callable and available on-line. (Q60012)

● BATCH - INTERCOM Command

The BATCH command has been modified to allow the user to BATCH a file to LOCAL and RENAME it in the same command. The use is as follows: BATCH,xxxxx,LOCAL,yyyyy

where: xxxxx - is the existing file name.

yyyyy - is the (optional) new file name.

If yyyyy is omitted, xxxxx is assumed.

● LIB - SCOPE Control Card

Programs executed via the LIB control cards:

LIB,BMD,bmdname.

LIB,ECO,progrname.

LIB,LIB,progrname.

LIB,INT,progrname.

may now be executed by merely specifying the name of the desired program. For example:

LIB,BMD,BMD02R. may now be BMD02R.

LIB,LIB,MATRIX. may now be MATRIX.

NOTE: To access the old BMD's (1967 Version) it is still necessary to use the LIB,OLD,bmdname. control card.

Policies and Procedures

Batch Security Features

The B job card parameter and the ACCOUNT control card are now available.

If the B parameter is specified on the job card in place of the A parameter, the authorization number will not be printed in the job's dayfile. The use of the A parameter remains unchanged.

The ACCOUNT control card provides a means of requiring user defined passwords before a job is permitted to run. To use the ACCOUNT control card it is necessary to specify *ACCOUNT Control Card Required* when opening or modifying an account authorization. Documentation on the use of this control card is available from User Services, Room 119 Packard Laboratory.

Modified Refund Policy

The following policy change has been approved by the User Subcommittee, and will be adopted by the Computing Center:

Effective January 1, 1976, funded authorizations must use the ACCOUNT control card in order to qualify for refunds for unauthorized computer use.

UPDATE Users Guide

The Computing Center has released Technical Bulletin #4 - Users Mini-Guide for UPDATE. This bulletin is designed to introduce the beginning user to CDC's library utility program, and to provide the experienced user with a handy reference to UPDATE's many options.

Computing Seminars

By user request the series was revived this past September, and six seminars were scheduled for the Fall semester. The topics presented were those most frequently requested by the user community. Despite extensive campus-wide announcements, the series failed to attract sufficient interest to justify its continuation.

Before a decision is made in this matter, users and non-users alike are urged to make their feelings known to the Computing Center's Educational Coordinator (Room 119 Packard Lab, ext. 603). All comments, complaints, and suggestions will be appreciated and will be considered as valuable inputs to the final decision.

System Bulletins

Several new bulletins have been added to the SYSBULL file. System bulletins, detailing known problems and pertinent announcements, are now available for the following products: COBOL, FTN, ISIS, PASCAL, SENATOR, and SPSS. System bulletins may be accessed via the SYSBULL control card. For example:

 SYSBULL,name - to obtain a specific bulletin. (e.g., SYSBULL,FTN.)

 -or-

 SYSBULL,ALL. - to obtain all current bulletins.

The SYSBULL control card may also be used as an INTERCOM command.

All current system bulletins are posted on the central site bulletin board.

Purging of Input and Remote Output Files

The following policy has been adopted by the Computing Center, after discussion with and approval by the User Subcommittee:

Effective October 8, 1975, input and remote output queue files remaining in the system will be purged at the end of operations on the first operating day during the week (Monday through Friday) after the day of their creation. A file created on Tuesday will be purged at the end of operations on Wednesday; a file created on Friday, Saturday, or Sunday will be purged at the end of operations on Monday.

NOTE: This policy will not apply to jobs which have been "staged" for non-prime and off-hours processing and which have not yet begun execution.

Users Guides

A revised CALCOMP Plotter Routines... and a new Introductory INTERCOM Users Guide are available for purchase at the University Bookstore.

The CALCOMP guide was updated to reflect changes to QIKPLT which allow the user to plot multiple functions with a single subroutine call.

The INTERCOM users guide now documents the use of the SENATOR text editing utility, instead of PREBAS and PREFOR. All INTERCOM users are urged to obtain a copy of this guide and to familiarize themselves with SENATOR before the scheduled July 1, 1976 demise of EDITOR, PREFOR, and PREBAS.

INPUT/OUTPUT

Comments, suggestions and inquiries may be submitted to User Services via a Software Comment (form #31), a Non-software Comment (form #14), the Suggestion Box at the Taylor site, or the interactive program SUGGEST.

- Q. Under the new operating system (SCOPE 3.4.3 / INTERCOM 4.3) I frequently find it impossible to "user abort" a program. What am I doing wrong?
- A. A "user abort" under INTERCOM 4.1 was accomplished using the ESC A sequence; INTERCOM 4.3 requires a %A cr. In addition, if output is being transmitted to the terminal at the time you wish to abort, it is now necessary to interrupt output before entering the %A cr. You may interrupt output by hitting any character key, the space bar, or the ESC key. Once output ceases, enter %A cr, and the program will abort.
- Q. Can the Computing Center institute a means of saving user output at the Taylor Remote Batch Site? If you are not there when your job prints, it gets tossed out.
- A. The Taylor site is strictly a student run operation. It was designed to provide users with fast turnaround of batch jobs. Users are expected to submit their own decks and to retrieve their output when it is printed. There is no practical way to hold outputs at this site. However, you may submit a deck at Taylor and request that the printed output be directed to the central site, where it will be held until you pick it up. To do this you simply insert the following control card, as the last control card in your deck:

DISPOSE(OUTPUT,*PR=C)

You will find a prepunched supply of these cards in the wall rack next to the terminal.

NOTE: A copy of the jobs dayfile will be printed at the Taylor site.

- Q. At 7:30 P.M. on a Wednesday evening, I executed the ASSETS command and found that I had PRIME time limits available. Doesn't NON-PRIME time begin at 7:00 P.M.?
- A. As the schedule indicates, NON-PRIME hours do begin at 7:00 P.M. on weekdays. However, INTERCOM limits are established at LOGIN time, and do not change when one time period ends and another begins. It would appear that you logged-in during PRIME time, and thus your limits would remain frozen until you logged-out. The only solution would have been to LOGOUT, and then LOGIN again after 7:00 P.M.
- Q. What is the meaning of the INTERCOM message **PLEASE RETURN FILES FOR DUMP?
- A. The Computing Center maintains a tape back-up of all permanent files. At the close of each operating day a back-up dump is taken of all files created or modified since the last back-up dump. Friday evenings a full dump of all files is performed. The permanent file dump requires exclusive access to the files being dumped. It is therefore necessary for the user to RETURN permanent files that are to be dumped. If the required files are not RETURNed, the user will be informed via subsequent operator messages. If after a reasonable length of time, the files are still not RETURNed, it may be necessary to drop INTERCOM to allow the dump to proceed.
- Q. In the "From the Librarian" section of USER I have noticed that the program abstracts are followed by a six character code in parenthesis. What is the meaning of this code?
- A. This code is the Lehigh University Computing Center's library index code. A user wishing more detailed information on a program or its technical documentation will find the program catalogued under this library number. Manuals containing LUCC library materials are available at the Packard Lab Inquiry Desk. Copies of program documentation may also be obtained from User Services via a "User Program Library Request" (LUC Form #35).