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SUBJECT:

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System Software Releases

The reason for this memo is that we just got a request for the source code for some patches that were recently released in object code update form. Source code is only released with Mark releases and Patch releases. I am assuming that if there has been one request, there will probably be others. The purpose of this memo is to explain TIO software release policy as I understand it.

A Mark release of the system software is made whenever new program products or major software enhancements are added. The following information describes a Mark release.

WHO: The B 1000 Mark 10.0 System Software Release.

WHAT: Object code for all system software components.

Source code for all system software components.

Descriptions for all changes since the Mark 9.1 release.

WHERE: From the Programming Activity to TIO.

From TIO to SDS, Software Distribution Services.

From SDS to the field.

(SDS used to be called PPD, Program Products Distribution.)

WHY: New program products, e.g. BNA, WFL. Hajor software enhancements.

WHEN: The 10.0 release was made in August 1981.

The 11.0 release is scheduled for April 1983.

ALIAS: SBPC system software is called "native-mode" system software as opposed to "CMS" system software which comes from Scotland.

The initial 10.0 release is also known as the 10.0.19 release because it contained MCPII 10.0.19.

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A Patch release of the system software is made to correct any problems associated with the Mark release. The following information describes a Patch release.

WHO: Patch Release 1 to the B 1000 Mark 10.0 System Software.

WHAT: Object code files for all system software components that have been patched since the initial Mark release.

Descriptions of all included patches.

Control files for source program recompilation.

Source code files for source orogram recompilation.

WHERE: From the Programming Activity to TIO.

From TIO to SDS. Software Distribution Services.

From SDS to the field.

WHY: To correct problems in the Mark release.

WHEN: Patch Release 1 to the B 1000 Mark 10.0 System Software was made in January 1982.

ALIAS: Patch Release 1 to the B 1000 Mark 10.0 System Software is also known as the 10.0.41 release because it contained MCPII 10.0.41.

Prior to March 1982, paper patch releases were made on a monthly basis. Paper patches contained listings of control files and source code files for source program recompilation. Paper patches had to be transcribed from paper to computer readable media, combined with all prior Mark 10.0 patches, and compiled with the original sources released with the Mark 10.0 release. They were sent directly from TIO to district offices and then to the field. Their advantage was quick response to user problems. Their disavantage was that the process of using the paper patch mechanism to generate updated object code files was so cumbersome and error prone that almost no Burroughs field representatives would use it. As a solution to that problem, TID sent object code updates on magnetic tape to the district offices on a demand basis. The disadvantage to that solution was that it put us into the time consuming software distribution business.

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Since March 1982, as a solution to both of those problems, TIO initiated preliminary releases of object code updates on a periodic basis to regional distribution points. The following information describes an preliminary release.

WHO: Preliminary release of object code updates to the B 1000 Mark 10.0 System Software

WHAT: Object code files for all system software components that have been patched since the initial Mark release.

Descriptions of all included patches.

No control files.

No source code files.

WHERE: From the Programming Activity to TIO. From TIO to:

West Sam Reagle Denver, Colorado Midwest Bill Bauer Minneapolis, Minnesota Andria Anania Philadelphia, Pennsylvania Northeast Southeast Larry Bell Atlanta, Georgia McLean, Virginia Ted Yama SDC/F&SSG International Al Harbeck Detroit, Michigan

WHY: To correct problems in the Mark release.

WHEN: The last preliminary release of object code updates was made in September 1982.

ALIAS: The last preliminary release of object code updates is also known as the 10.0.112 release because it contained MCPII 10.0.112.

Control files and source code files will be made available within the USA on a individual demand basis upon receipt of a FCF stating the specific source patch needed and the reason for the need. As an exception to the above rule, control files and source code files are included in the release to International.