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NOVEMBER 1979

VOL. 5 NO. 5

Contributions to the newsletter should be sent to:

Ken Demers MS-48 United Technologies Research Center Silver Lane East Hartford, Conn. 06108 203 727-7241

Other communications should be directed to:

John T. Rasted RT-11 SIG C/O DECUS JTR Associates or One Iron Way 58 Rasted Lane Meriden, Conn. 06450 MR2-3/E55 203 634-1632 Marlboro, Mass. 01752 617 481-9511 Ext. 4141

FROM THE EDITOR

I would like to thank everyone that took the time to respond to the "minitasker" funding questionnaire. Your comments raised many issues. I hope the following will answer some of the more common ones.

The intended fee will be used to cover the newsletter's cost 1. of paper, printing, and postage. The fee is not intended to raise a profit.

2.

The fee will be kept as low as possible. 3.

The actual cost of providing the newsletter will be published. 4.

The quality of the newsletter will not improve or diminish 5. because of the fee. The quality of the newsletter depends on your contributions.

We intend to provide an effecient mechanisn for newsletter 6. payment (U.S.A. and foreign subscribers).

The preliminary results of the questionnaire:

114 will continue to subscribe

will not continue to subscribe 20

- 5 are not sure
- ---139

total responses

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John Rasted has informed me that there might be a problem with the "Simple Bootstrap Loaders for RLO1, RKO5" submission in the last newsletter (Sept. pg. 4-6). Someone from DEC called John and mentioned that block 1 of the disk is not unused. Use caution until this is verified.

USER REQUESTS _____

SUBY, VON HADEN & ASSOCIATES, S. C.

Certified Public Accountants

PRINCIPALS JOHN F. SUBY, C.P.A. TERRY VON HADEN, C.P.A. JAMES A. JUDD, C.P.A. MICHAEL L. GENTZ, C.P.A. JAMES NICHOLSON, C.P.A. CARL O. BOLSTAD, C.P.A. DALE W. SMITH, C.P.A. MANAGERS

901 S. WHITNEY WAY MADISON, WISCONSIN 53711 (608) 274-2616

STAFF ACCOUNTANTS BRUCE ABPLANALP RAYMOND H. BOYSEN JAMES C. CUMMINGS, C.P.A. DENNIS L. FARR, C.P.A. DAVID N. HEGG TIMOTHY A. KOECHEL TIMOTHY A. KOECHEL JULIE ANN LYNCH JUDY E. NICHOLLS SUSAN J. PICKERING ANNALEE ROSE DOUGLAS J. SCHULTZ JOHN F. STOEHR, C.P.A.

THOMAS G. BURESH, C.P.A. JACK R. COTTON, C.P.A. RICHARD VANDEN HEUVEL, C.P.A.

September 11, 1979

People:

I am currently using TECO and love it. However, there are a few bugs in it.

First, under RT-ll (S)VØ3B-ØØD the characters (Ø175) and (Ø176) get changed to escapes! This could be VERY bad if programming in C. I am upset. Next, why aren't EI and EP implemented under RT-11?

Sincerely,

HADEN & ASSOCIATES, S.C. SUBY

Randy Lee

RL:1b

If anyone has information pertaining to implementing XM on an LSI-11, please contact:

Pete Asensio Precision Timer CO. Inc. Westbrook Industrial Park Westbrook, Conn. 06498

I would like to hear from any users of RT-11 FILEX for tranfer to and from IBM mainframe systems.

Michael Smith Wellcome Research Laboratories, SCSD Building 86, Beckenham, Kent England

I would like to hear from users of RT-11 V2 or V3 with experience of reading floppies from other systems - eg INTEL ISSIS

C. Wallis Dept. of Engineering Production, University of Birmingham. Tel: 021 472 1301 ext 3519 England

USER INPUT

TSX (multi-user RT-ll) - N Bevan

TSX runs under the normal RT-11 SJ or FB monitor, and provides a multi-user environment by swapping users to and from disc. Each user appears to have a normal RT-11 system, and all standard programs and languages run unmodified, provided there is sufficient memory. TSX occupies approximately 8KW memory, and users swap into the remaining memory.

There are many enhancements to normal RT-ll facilities, and these include: optional logon and file access limitation, spooling, enhanced terminal support, and better command files. Timesharing features include controlling several jobs from one terminal, and inter-job and inter-user communication. In many situations TSX is a better choice than MUBASIC.

Anyone wishing further information on TSX such as detailed operation or possible suppliers should contact Nigel Bevan on Øl 977 3222. England FILE MOVE (FMOVE.MAC)

PURPOSE,

TO MOVE A FILE FROM DXO TO DX1. INTENDED FOR MOVING FILES TO AND FROM ARCHIVE DISCS, BUT IS GENERALLY USEFUL FOR MOVING FILES FROM ONE DISC TO ANOTHER.

ADVANTAGES OVER PIP (RT11, V2)

- 1. ONLY NAME AND EXTENSION ARE TYPED IN (E.G. FRED,MAC)
 WHICH IS EQUIVALENT TO PIP COMMANDS:
 DX1:FRED,MAC=FRED.MAC
 FRED.MAC/D
- 2. USES THE LENGTH OF THE SOURCE FILE TO ALLOCATE THE EXACT SPACE REQUIRED ON THE DESTINATION DISC, HENCE IF THE DX1 DISC HAS 'N' FREE BLOCKS (CONSECUTIVELY), THEN A FILE OF 'N' BLOCKS CAN BE MOVED ON TO IT. ALSO, IF A FILE IS MOVED OFF AN ARCHIVE DISC, IT CAN SUBSEQUENTLY BE REPLACED IN THE SAME POSITION WITHOUT DIFFICULTY.
- 3. IT CANNOT LOSE A FILE, SINCE THE COPY IS CREATED AND CLOSED BEFORE THE SOURCE FILE IS DELETED.

ALL ERRORS ARE REPORTED TO THE CONSOLE.

NOTE: AN EARLIER VERSION OF THIS PROGRAM CALLED 'MOVE, MAC' HAS BEEN SUBMITTED TO DECUS, BUT USED ONLY DEFAULT FILE SPACE ALLOCATIONS, WHICH MEANTS THAT IF A LARGE FILE WAS MOVED OFF A WELL FILLED DISC, IT MIGHT BE DIFFICULT TO GET IT BACK ON AGAIN.

THE SOURCE PROGRAM, FMOVE.MAC, IS AVAILABLE ON (YOUR) FLOPPY DISC FROM:

JOHN LETHEREN, BRITISH AEROSPACE (DYNAMICS), BLDG. 501-16V, FILTON, BRISTOL BS99 7AR

UPDATES TO FMOVE MAC

This program now moves one or more files from any file-structured device to any other (eg. FLOPPY, RKØ5, DECTAPE, etc). The source and destination devices are requested by the program at start of run.

Another addition is that it will not overwrite a file of the same NAME.EXT on the output device. Apart from hardware faults or bad blocks, it is impossible to lose a file. (The new version has been submitted to DECUS to replace MOVE.MAC).

OTHER V2C UTILITIES

- <u>RKBKUP</u> To create backup copies on a Plessey 'RKØ5' dual drive with one fixed disc, where the fixed disc is 'SYSTEM' (RKØ) and cartridges (RK1) are sources, data, etc.
- 2. <u>RECOVR</u> Recovers a deleted file, providing the directory 'DMPTV' and file blocks are still there. If the file is destroyed by EDIT 'EW', deleting or renaming the new file will (with luck) enable the old file to be 'RECOVR'ed.

Anyone interested, contact John Letheren, (Bristol 693831 ext. 712 or 713).

ACCESSING A DIRECTORY SEGMENT WITH TWO INSTRUCTIONS

My particular requirement was to .LOOKUP a file, and extract the DATE from the directory.

To find the directory segment is quite a involved task, even if .SAVE STATUS is used.

However, after the .LOOKUP, the relevant directory segment is held in the USR. How to find it?

The monitor base address is held in location 54, and the address of the USR directory segment is at offset 266(8) from the monitor base, so:

MOV @#54,RØ ; PICK UP MON. BASE ADDR

MOV 266(RØ), R1 ; R1 POINTS TO SEGMENT (IN USR)

It is then just a matter of scanning the segment for NAME.EXT (which must be there:)

This operates under RT-11 version 2, S/J but should work for F/B if the USR is locked in until the data has been extracted.

Acknowledgements to DEC (Bristol) for the 266 offset valve.

John Letheren, British Aerospace.

(Bristol 693831 ext. 712 or 713)

Segmenting the RLO1

Those of you who have upgraded from a floppy to a hard disk may be overwhelmed by the extra storage capacity obtained. It is often convenient to make use of this capacity by treating a single unit as several virtual units.

We have done this for the RLO1 so that one can use the whole of unit 0 as 4 independent units, DLO, DL1, DL2 and DL3. In principle each virtual unit can act as both a system or non-system device. However, in practise this is not too helpful since the hardware bootstrap will only acknowledge DLO.

For the case where the number of virtual units is a power of two and only DLO is required as the system device, this involves only a fairly minor modification to the handler. Anyone interested should contact me.

John Yardley National Physical Laboratory, Teddington, Middlesex. England

RT-11 MARKETPLACE



MICRO LOGIC CONSULTANTS LIMITED

47 Carters Way, Wisborough Green, West Sussex Telephone 040378-631

The Editor, Decuscope. United Kingdom, 17th. September 1979.

Dear Sir,

Your RT-11 users may be interested to hear of two items of software which we have recently developed:

LINE PRINTER SPOOLER FOR RT-11

The line printer spooler automatically prints and deletes any file created with a specified extension on a selected device. Where lengthy reports or listings are produced, or only a slow printer is available, this can effect a great time saving. The system facilities are available to the user while printing takes place.

SERIAL LINE FRINTER HANDLER FOR RT-11

This handler allows the use of a low cost serial printer as the RT-11 line printer device. XON / XOFF protocols are handled to allow buffered printers to function at maximum speed.

We shall be pleased to provide further information on these software products to any interested user.

Yours sincerely,

D. A. Cluther

D. A. Clifford. RDA inc. Computer Systems

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PDP-11 DATA MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

Designed for implementation by non-programming oriented users, RTFILE offers many of the features of Large scale Data Base Management Systems. RTFILE runs on any LSI-11 or PDP-11 computer utilizing Digital's RT-11 operating system. The data management/information retrieval system leads users in the development of their application with screen menu choices and clear english stated questions. Major features of the system include:

File generation and restructuring. CRT screen formatting for data entry/update and inquiry. Report generator with sort, logical and arithmetic field manipulation.

While RTFILE will be of considerable interest to users with little or no programming experience, programmers will also find it helpful in the design and generation of more complex application programs.

For more information, please contact W. R. Davies (301) 937-2215

RDA, INC. 5012 HERZEL PLACE D BELTSVILLE, MARYLAND 20705 D PHONE (301) 937-2215

DEC INPUT

The following standards were forwarded from DEC .

X3/79-189

american national standards committee

X3-computers and information processing X4-office machines and supplies

operating under the procedures of the American National Standards Institute August 20, 1979

For more information, contact:

NEWS RELEASE

Mr. Joseph S. Zajaczkowski Chairman X3B1 Sperry Univac - MS E8-108B PO Box 500 Blue Bell, PA 19424 (215) 542-2632

X3.85 - One-Half Inch Magnetic Tape Interchange Using a Self-Loading Cartridge Available for Public Review Comment

Washington, D. C. -- The X3 Secretariat announces the availability of X3.85 for public review comment.

This document, developed by X3B1, the technical committee on Magnetic Tape, will be available for comments until January 7, 1980.

The standard defines the requirements and supporting test methods necessary to insure interchange at acceptable performance levels. It is distinct from a specification in that it delineates a minimum of restriction consistent with compatibility in interchange transactions.

Copies of the document are available from:

X3 Secretariat CBEMA 1828 L Street, NW Suite 1200 Washington, DC 20036

A check for \$5.00 and mailing label must accompany each request for X3.85.

american national standards committee

X3-computers and information processing X4-office machines and supplies

operating under the procedures of the American National Standards Institute

NEWS RELEASE

August 22, 1979

For more information, contact

Mr. G. Kent Godwin, Chair, X3A1 US Dept. of Agriculture 7817 Glenister Drive Springfield, VA 22152 (202) 447-6330

X3/79--191

Public Review of New Standard on X3.86, Optical Character Recognition Non-Read Inks Announced

Washington, D. C. --- A major step in the voluntary standards development process, the public review comment period, is announced for another X3 draft proposed American National Standard. The X3 Secretariat has forwarded X3.86, Optical Character Recognition Non-Read Inks to the American National Standards Institute's Board of Standards Review for announcement in the offical standards newspaper "Standards Action".

This step enables all interested parties from every area of concern, manufacturers, users, and general interest groups, to comment on a draft developed by X3A1, OCP, the X3 Technical Committee responsible for the project. The four-month public review period on the standard closes January 7, 1980. This standard defines the spectral band for read inks and provides curves for the red and blue non-read inks, each at three levels of reflectance. Manufscturers and users can then determine the best tradeoff between legibility to human and reliability of the optical reader.

Copies of the dpANS are available from the X3 Secretariat for \$6.00. A check specifying X3.86, and mailing label should be sent to:

X3 Secretariat CBEMA 1828 L Street, NW Suite 1200 Washington, DC 20036

emerican national standards committees X3--computers and information processing X4--office machines and supplies operating under the procedures of the American National Standards Institute doc. no. : X3/79-196 SPARC/79-217 date: : August 15, 1979 project : 40 millestone :

reply to

Mrs. Jean Smith Chair, X3L5 Sperry Univac M11-117 P. O. Box 500 Blue Bell, PA 19424

Dear Jean:

Subject: Follow up on Letter Ballot X3/408, Approval for Public Review Comment Period on dpANS Specification for an Information Interchange Data Descriptive File

By a letter ballot tally of 37-5-0-2, X3 approved the public review comment period for X3L5/78-77-F, now known as BSR X3.87. We have transmitted it to ANSI for inclusion in the September 21 issue of "Standards Action".

During the X3 balloting the following comments accompanied both yes and no votes:

Negatives:

Datapoint: "Other coded character sets in addition to ASCII is not required and further processing is, therefore, not needed."

REI and OCRUA: "I'd like the negative ballot resolved first in TC".

- Guide International: "X3L5 should work this out with X3L2 before further processing."
- Burroughs: "1. The proposed standard is too complex for small systems; this will drastically reduce its applicability.

 The proposed standard will not be useful because of the existence of many successful implementations currently in use."

Affirmative, with comment:

ACM: "I strongly recommend that the reason for this outstanding negative ballot, together with an 'rebuttal' from the committee, be also included in the documentation used in further processing." Sperry Univac: "Presumably X3L2 comments will be considered as first public review response."

- <u>Honeywell</u>: "I am voting Yes because of the overall usefulness of this standard. However, I feel that X3 must sometime address the problem caused by a standard such as this endorsing non-standard elements used, care should be taken in the application of 'ESC' to assume the HEX assignment is not in EDCDIC 'ESC' and 'PRE' have the same HEX representation (27)."
- NCR: "This affirmative vote is subject to the conditions that the copies of X3L5/78-77 be made available for public review be more legible than that which accompanied this ballot."

As you can see, there are several issues to be addressed in addition to any public review comments. I would appreciate your committee's input to these by the time we go out for final X3 letter ballot, mid-December.

operating under the procedures of the American National Standards institute

For more information, contact:

Jean Smith, Chair X3L5 Sperry Univac Mil-117 PO Box 500 Blue Bell, PA 19424 (215) 542-2226

X3.87, Specification for an Information Interchange Data Description File, Announced for Public Review

Washington, D. C. — The X3 Technical Committee X3L5 on Codes and Character Sets has developed a draft proposed standard on Specification for an Information Interchange Data Description File, X3.87. American National Standards Committee X3 has voted to forward this document to the Board of Standards Review at ANSI for the necessary 4-month public review comment period. All interested parties will have the opportunity to review X3.87, and submit their comments to the X3 Secretariat for consideration by the Technical Committee.

Copies of BSR X3.87 can be obtained from:

X3 Secretariat Staff CBEMA 1828 L Street, NW Suite 1200 Washington, DC 20036

A return mailing label and check for \$5.00 identifying the BSR X3.87 request must accompany each order.

UPCOMING SYMPOSIUM INFORMATION

SAN DIEGO SYMPOSIUM

John T. Rasted, RT-11 SIG Chairman

The 1979 FALL DECUS Symposium will give the RT-11 SIG member an opportunity to exchange information on state-of-the-art hardware and software techniques.

Presentations by DIGITAL include the RT-11 Product Panel, RT-11 Languages, Internals Tutorial(Using Extended Memory) and RT-11 Feedback Session. User presentations include four formal papers and User Application Workshop where users freely discuss the problems and solutions concerning their installation.

There will be two SIG meetings. The first will be concerned with guiding new attendees through the mage of presentations, suites, exhibits and informal satherings; and will end with a business meeting dealing with the SIG newsletter, DECUS Library, Local User Groups, and other non-symposia SIG activities. The second SIG meeting, coming at the end of the symposium, will deal with user reaction to the sessions and will respond to unanswered questions from other meetings.

In addition to the usual software sessions, there will be a number of hardware oriented sessions dealing with issues of interest to a broad range of users from system managers to hardware designers.

Suites will be maintained for users to meet with representatives from DIGITAL groups such as Central Engineering, Field Service, and Software Services.

The RT-11, HHK and LSI SIGs will share the Council Room as campsround during the meeting. This room will serve as a SIG operations/gathering spot. PDT people will also be in this location.

Come to the symposium and meet with other users. Establish continuing communication to avoid re-invention of the wheel. Influence future plans of DIGITAL and the RT-11 SIG.

TO ALL STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERS

There will be a meeting of the RT-11 SIG Steering Committee on Sunday, December 9th, from 4:30PM ~ 6:00PM in the Council Room.

RT-11 SESSIONS

The following RT-11 sessions and times are scheduled for the Fall DECUS Symposium in San Diego:

RT-11 Symposium Roadmap and SIG Business Meeting	10:15 - 11:15 AM	Dec 10th
Languages Panel	2:30 - 4:00 PM	Dec 10th
RT-11 Product Panel	4:15 - 6:15 PM	Dec 10th
RT-11 Technical Tutorial (using extended memory)	10:15 - 11:45 AM	Dec 11th
RT-11 User Application Panel	4:15 - 6:15 PM	Dec 11th
RT/RSX-11M on Small Systems	8:30 - 9:30 AM	Dec 12th
PDF 11/23 for RT-11	10:45 - 11:00 AM	Dec 12th
Programming Techniques Using FMS-11	11:00 - 12:00 AM	Dec 12th
Bit Slice Microprogramming Support Tools	3:30 - 4:00 PM	Dec 12th
Computerized Documentation of a Programmable Interface Controller Under RT-11	4:15 - 4:45 PM	Dec 12th
RT-11 SIG Symposium Wrap-Up Session	8:30 - 9:30 AM	Dec 13th
RT-11 Feedback Session	9:45 - 11:45 AM	Bec 13th
RT-11 SIG Operations/ sathering spot with DEC technical people will be in Council Room	OPEN	Dec 10th thru Dec 13th

TAPE COPY OPERATIONS

DIGITAL'S Computer Special Systems Group is providing DECUS with a machine capable of media-copy operations. Submittals must be on either floppy or mag tape. Submittals must be made by 5:00 PM on Dec 10th. If you would like a copy of the RT-11 tape you must bring a mag tape, as copies will only be made to this media!!! Contact the RT-11 SIG Tape Copy Coordinator or his representative at, or before, the sysposium for additional details.

RT-11 SIG TAPE COPY COORDINATOR

Nick Bourseois / 1736 Sandia Laboratories F.O. Box 5800 Albuquerque, NM 87185 (505) 264-8088

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FBS SHOUL FRST FRATING SYSTEM RT-11 EXAMPLE IN INSTRI- ME: RONI MI: SAND POES: ALBU SHATTED BY MI: SAND POES: ALBU	TRNG DBE TRNG VØ3 KOTONS TRELLUE DBULGER QUERQUE ROOPY DISKS	S; ESC SESC SYSTEM B SYSTEM B SYSTEM STOR	>GL < GJ < E: PROGRAM OF CC ASIC-11, 23 VES 87185 4-8088 NG U	(ESC) NOTE 7 SC) = C ACOMENT TILLE REPORT TYPE ACBQ REPORT TYPE $ACBQACBQ ACBQ ACBQCOULD THIS SPE MORE DOCUMENT COULD THIS SPE COULD THIS SPE$	= C K < ES $WE CORREC$ $K < ESC > V < VERSION OR DOCUMENT P. V & 2 - 0 3 C VERSION OR DOCUMENT P. V & 2 - 0 3 C DO YOU HAVE SOUP ERROR ATION ERROR NFORMATION/SUGGESTION LEM BE REPRODUCED AT WILL YES D NO R HAVE BEEN PREVENTED BY NTATION?$		< ESC) DATE 8-13 XARD YES 0	> - 29 ves & No -

THE SAMPLE TERMINAL OUTPUT WAS MADE ON THE PDP-11/10. THE BUG APPEARS ON ALL THREE MACHINES CITED.

THE PROGRAM MERCYN. BAS EXECUTES PROPERLY UNDER THE FULLOWING TWO SEQUENCES:

OLD	MERCYN	OLD	MERCYN
RUN		COMF	PILE
• • -		RUN	MERCYN

IT CRASHES THE SYSTEM WHEN AN ATTEMPT IS MADE TO RUN AN UN-COMPILED COPY OF MERCYN. BAS.

RT-11
.SHOW C
RT-11FB VO3B-00E
Booted from RKO: Resident Monitor base is 137674 USR is set NOSWAP TT is set NOQUIET Indirect file abort level is ERROR Indirect file nesting depth is 3
PDF 11/05,10 Processor 60 Cycle System Clock
No SYSGEN options enabled
.BASIC BASIC-11/RT-11 V02-030 OPTIONAL FUNCTIONS (ALL, NONE, OR INDIVIDUAL)?
READY OLD DX1:MERCYN
READY RUN

MERCYN	13-AUG-79 12:15:06
12:15:06 Enter the 7 DX1:	MERCYN: 79H0BA device name for the input file
Enter the ? NL:	device name for the output file
12:15:42-	
READY -	
READY	
RUN DX1:M 12:15:59	ERCYN
Enter the ? DX1:	device name for the input file
MON-F-Sy	stem halt'
	RT-11
• SHOW C	
RT-115J	V03B-00C
Booted fro	
Resident) USR is set	Monitor base is 150464
	NOQUIET
	file abort level is ERROR
Indirect 1	file nesting depth is 3
	10 Processor
60 Cycle 9	System Clock
No SYSGEN	options enabled
	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
BASIC -	
	T-11 V02-030
DPTIONAL F	UNCTIONS (ALL, NONE, OR INDIVIDUAL)?
READY	
RUN DX1:ME	
12:18:16	
? DX1:	device name for the input file
PMON-F-Tr=	ep to 4 137212

	V03B-00C
Booted fro Resident i USR is se	Monitor base is 150464
TT is set	NOQUIET
Indirect ·	file abort level is ERROR
Indirect	file nesting depth is 3
	10 Processor
No SYSGEN	options enabled
	RT-11 VO2-030 ; FUNCTIONS (ALL, NONE, OR INDIVIDUAL)
?FILE NOT	FOUND
READY OLD DX1:ME	ERCYN
READY RUN	
MERCYN	13-AUG-79 12:20:18
12:20:18	MERCYN: 79H08A
Enter the	device name for the input file
? DX1:	
	device name for the output file
? NL:	
12:20:52	
READY COMPILE	······································
READY	
SCR	
READY	
RUN MERCYA 12:21:18	MERCYN: 79H08A
RUN MERCYA 12:21:18	
RUN MERCYN 12:21:18 Enter the ? DX1:	MERCYN: 79H08A
RUN MERCY 12:21:18 Enter the ? DX1: Enter the ? NL:	MERCYN: 79H08A
RUN MERCYN 12:21:18 Enter the ? DX1: Enter the	MERCYN: 79H08A
RUN MERCY 12:21:18 Enter the ? DX1: Enter the ? NL:	MERCYN: 79H08A

17.

.BOOT SY: _____

•SHOW C

 RT-11

 .SHOW C

 RT-11FB
 V03B-00E

 Booted from RK0:

 Resident Monitor base is 137674

 USR is set NOSWAP

 TT is set NOQUIET

 Indirect file abort level is ERROR

 Indirect file nesting depth is 3

 FDP 11/05,10 Processor

 60 Cycle System Clock

 No SYSGEN options enabled

 .BASIC

 BASIC-11/RT-11 V02-030

OFTIONAL FUNCTIONS (ALL, NONE, OR INDIVIDUAL)? READY RUN MERCYN 12:23:36 MERCYN: 79H08A Enter the device name for the input file ? DX1: Enter the device name for the output file ? NL: 2:24:09 READY BYE

. BOOT	SY:	

. .



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MOVING OR REPLACING A DELEGATE?	
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