

NOTISES

Editor: Tina Homan

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RELEASE 4.4 "OUT THE DOOR"

Status of Release 4.4:

1. All of the VSE release tapes were mailed the week of February 16.
2. The MVS release was installed at Bell Communications Research during that same week. Final changes and refinements are now being made. We will start shipping MVS tapes February 9.

As you know, the VSE version of the release doesn't include keyword and Boolean searching. Our current schedule calls for distribution of this feature to VSE users during July. We will keep you posted.

We all feel that Release 4.4 is a tremendous step forward in the functionality of the NOTIS software. We look forward to your comments.

DATES SET FOR ANNUAL USERS' MEETING

The NOTIS users meeting will be held August 6 & 7 in Evanston. Mark your calendars! Details will follow.

USER SERVICES LIBRARIANS TO ATTEND TRAINING SEMINAR

The entire staff of the User Services group will be away from the office for the week of March 2 to attend an American Management Association training seminar. We plan to learn new ideas for improving and diversifying the training services currently provided.

Individual User Services librarians will be calling in daily for messages. If you need quick answers to system specific questions, we suggest you speak to the System Engineer assigned to your account.

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NEED 3163/4 INFO?

If you haven't been able to get satisfactory information about the 3163/4 terminal which supports the ALA character set from your local IBM rep, we suggest contacting either your ASIS rep or Ron Wolfield (914) 385-7024, the IBM product manager.

PLACING TERMINALS NEAR A 3M TATTLE-TAPE SECURITY SYSTEM

Occasional articles about terminals interfering with a library's security system led us to talk to 3M Corporation to get an exact definition of the problem, and learn what can be done to minimize it. We spoke with Mr. Gary Kashchmeiter at 3M's St. Paul office, who told us the following:

What is the problem?

Radiation from the cathode ray tube (the picture tube) within a terminal can cause the controls in the 3M Tattle-tape system to not work, allowing a sensitized item to pass undetected between the system's 2 posts.

Can the tube be shielded?

Some terminal manufacturers shield the tubes inside the terminals, with varying degrees of success. Occasionally a terminal from a reputable vendor will have an unusually high amount of radiation due to voltage arcing (an extreme example would affect a 3M system from a distance of 60 feet). Adding shielding outside the terminal is inadequate, since the amount of shielding needed would cover the terminal until it would be unusable.

How can I tell if a terminal is affecting the 3M system?

One way is to turn off (power off) the terminal and see if the 3M system works correctly. Then power the terminal back on and see if the system doesn't work. (This will require silencing the system's bell, carrying a sensitized item through the posts several times, and listening for the clicking of the alarm.) You may want to slowly move the terminal closer to or away from the controls (housed in the black base of one of the posts). If arcing is suspected, replace the terminal with another of the same make and model.

What can I do if the terminal is interfacing with the 3M system, and I can't move the terminal or exchange it for a different model?

For 3M systems produced through late 1985, 3M can install a circuit board in the post, which will roughly halve the sensitive distance to the post. In other words, if terminals up to 20 feet

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away are interfacing, installing the circuit board will reduce the sensitive distance to about 10 feet. Cost of installation is \$450 per circuit board including parts and labor.

The circuit board has been installed by 3M systems manufactured since late 1985. If a library wants to know whether its post has the circuit board, ask the 3M service representative next time he or she is working on the post.

Is there a general rule for minimum distance from a terminal to the controls?

For a terminal with an 18-inch diagonal screen or smaller, place the terminal no closer than 15 feet to controls without the circuit board, and 10 feet to those with the circuit board. Exceptions are the Wyse, ADM-11 and Teleray terminals, which can be within 3 feet of the controls due to good interal shielding.

Will a terminal affect the sensitize/desensitize unit at a circulation desk?

No, but the unit can affect the terminal display. Place the unit at least 3 feet from the terminal, otherwise the screen display may jump each time an item is sensitized or desensitized. This effect is the reason magnetically recorded media such as audio tapes and diskettes should not be desensitized with the unit, but bypassed around the gates.

If any NOTIS users have experienced problems with terminal interference, please let us know. If you have questions on this topic, call your Systems Engineer or Mr. Kashchmeiter at (612) 733-3408.

NOTIS NEW ACQUISITIONS MODULE FEATURES AVAILABLE IN PHASE II

Now that we are distributing the first phase of online fund accounting and invoice processing in Release 4.4, we thought you'd like to know what is planned for later enhancements to acquisitions.

The following is a list of items currently being speced for addition to NOTIS. Planning isn't far enough along yet for us to set a date for these enhancements.

1. Currency conversion in invoice and order/pay/receipt records
2. Index access to fund, order/pay/receipt record, and invoice records

3. Additional acquisitions status LUIS messages
4. Redesigned vendor record
5. Define additional order/pay/receipt record codes
6. Validate order/pay/receipt record codes
7. Purge programs for order/pay/receipt, fund, and invoice records
8. Order session templating
9. New batch products:
 - a. vouchers
 - b. approved voucher list
 - c. fund record worksheets
 - d. invoice record worksheets
 - e. fund transaction log
10. Revised batch products:
 - a. commitments and expenditure report off fund records
 - b. purchase orders
 - c. memos to vendors

INDEX REDESIGN CONFIGURATION: VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY

In preparation for the implementation of Index Redesign, Vanderbilt University has obtained approximately 400,000 name, series, and subject authority records from BNA, as well as having begun creating authority records for production cataloging. The following is the database configuration at VU:

Institution groups: One - VU

Processing units: Three - VU (General), MC (Medical),
LW (Law)

Subject heading schemes: LCSH and MeSH

All three processing units create name, series, and subject authority records. If a bibliographic record created by any processing unit contains LCSH and MeSH, the headings are retained on the bibliographic record and are indexed. Therefore, there is MeSH access to the records of all three processing units. However, the Medical Library Processing Unit, MC, is the only one creating MeSH authority records, and performs all related MeSH catalog maintenance functions.

The desired result of the implementation of Index Redesign software is after performing an "sm=" search not only will all MeSH headings on all bibliographic records be accessed, but any needed cross references for these MeSH headings will also be provided from the authority records created and maintained by the MC processing unit. After an "a=" search all names in all bibliographic records will be accessed, with any needed cross references for these name headings being provided by the authority records created by any of the three processing units. Series work similarly.

CUSTOMER PROFILE

Jane recently had the opportunity to fill out two surveys--one for Library Journal (done by Bob Warton), and one for Dick Boss' organization, Information Systems Consultants. Both surveys requested information for articles to be published this spring on the library automation marketplace.

In gathering the data for that study, the following profile of NOTIS users emerged:

Type of Library	No. of Installed Users (as of the end of 1986)	
Academic	45	(68%)
Special	6	(9%)
Public	6	(9%)
School System	1	(1.5%)
State/National	5	(7.6%)

66 Total Installations

26 new systems were installed in calendar year 1986.

95% of NOTIS users are in the United States. There are 2 users in Canada and 3 in South America.

13 NOTIS users are owner/partners of the Research Libraries Group, comprising 36% of the RLG owner/partners.

NOTIS USERS DIRECTORY

by Cheryl Riley, Central Missouri State University

A group of interested NOTIS users met at the annual meeting last July to discuss the possibility of forming sub-groups within NOTIS. Although it was agreed that sub-groups would facilitate information dissemination, the general consensus of the group was that the time was not yet right for their formation. It was felt that the users group was not yet so large as to seriously hamper

the exchange of information. One idea which resulted from this meeting was the desire to have more information about other NOTIS users. A suggested way to achieve this goal was a NOTIS users directory.

NOTIS director Jane Burke agreed that a directory would benefit NOTIS users, but explained that it was impossible for NOTIS staff to collect the necessary data because of the current demand for NOTIS products. However, the NOTIS office offered to publish a directory if a volunteer group would collect the data.

Several users agreed to participate in the data gathering. Those individuals working on the project include: Ruth Blake, Tulsa City/County Library System; Cathye Bunch, St. Louis Community College; Ron Curtis, Central State University; Paul Dumont, Dallas County Community College District; James Eller, Wichita State University; Charles Kemp, Missouri Southern State College; Mike Kreyche, Kent State University; Mollie Niemeyer, Central Missouri State University; Thomas Sanders, Auburn University; and project coordinator, Cheryl Riley, Central Missouri State University.

A copy of the NOTIS Customer Directory Information Sheet is attached to this edition of NOTISes (see Attachment #1). Please detach and complete the information. Once you have completed these sheets, hold on to them until someone from the project committee contacts your library.

As many data sheets as possible will be collected and forwarded to the NOTIS office for distribution. It is the intention to have these sheets collected before the next annual users group meeting.

If you have any questions, contact Cheryl Riley at Central Missouri State University, Warrensburg, MO 64093, (816) 429-4071.

NEWS AND VIEWS

NOTIS users who are in the early stages of implementing circulation often request that User Services send samples of the batch products and reports produced by the system. Unfortunately, we are unable to provide them with samples of the entire range of reports available.

User Services would like to provide current, and potential customers, with a comprehensive picture of circulation. Therefore, we are issuing a call to our users to send us sample copies of reports and notices that you produce.

We would specifically like to receive:

Date Due
Fine
Routing
Return Slips
Courtesy Notices
Operations Reports
Samples of any reports produced from SAS

Please send your samples to Ben Burrows, NOTIS User Services,
1935 Sheridan Road, Evanston, IL 60201.

UPCOMING INSTALLATIONS

Cornell University March 2
Tulane University March 23

NEWS FROM DOCUMENTATION SERVICES

Within the past two weeks Documentation Services mailed to you Update 7 to the Terminal Operator's Manual, Vol. 1: Technical Services and Update 1 to the Terminal Operator's Manual, Vol. 2: Circulation. In another package we mailed to you revised sections H and J of TOM1. Please check to make sure you have received the two update packages.

After mailing Update 7 we discovered that some of the update packages included poorly copied pages. Specifically, the pages included in sections D, E, F, and G appeared faded (if not blank). If your update was one with poor copies, please let us know.

The Terminal Operator's Manual, Vol. 3: LUIS is just about ready for printing. We are waiting for a few final revisions that need to be made to the keyword help screens before calling prints for the new TOM volume.

All NOTIS technical contacts should have recently received the new Troubleshooting section (Appendix E) to the Installation & Operations Manual.

To VSE users we just sent the 4.4 Release software and documentation, and replacement B, C, and D appendices to the I&O Manual.

MVS users can expect the 4.4 Release software and documentation, and updates in the near future.

Please check to make sure you have received the appropriate technical packages.

Last fall we received a couple of inquiries about the possibility of distributing documentation on tape rather than printed on paper. At that time it didn't appear tape distribution was a possibility. Recently, we investigated the possibility again. We've been advised that tape distribution of documentation might be possible provided the library receiving the documentation on tape has the utility "PRINT" installed on its computer and provided that the library wants to print documentation only.

Most NOTIS documentation has been written with the word processing system "ETC." If "ETC" word processing is available at your library, you might be able to customize NOTIS documentation. If "ETC" isn't available but the "PRINT" utility is in use at your installation, you may be able to print NOTIS documentation.

We are interested in testing tape distribution. If your library is interested in testing the receipt of NOTIS documentation on tape and your library has the utility PRINT or your library has the word processing system ETC, please call or write Jim Meyer, Documentation Services, at (312) 491-7004.

NEWS FROM USER SERVICES

Mary Alice Ball went to the University of Wisconsin to train library personnel in NOTIS advanced acquisitions and advanced serials January 27 & 28. On January 30 she traveled to Tulane University to observe data conversion training.

Ben Burrows and Ben Schapiro conducted an implementation meeting at the Oklahoma Department of Libraries on January 22.

Kathy Cunningham went to Western Kentucky University, January 6-7, for implementation and an introduction to NOTIS technical functions.

Tom McGinn was in Kansas during the week of January 26-30 training in introductory cataloging and introductory serials at Fort Hays State University January 27-28. He reviewed technical services operations at Wichita State University on January 29-30.

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