

The Newsletter  
for NOTIS Users

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## New Multiple Database Access System (MDAS) goes online at selected sites

This month we are installing our new Multiple Database Access System (MDAS) at five selected "launch" sites: Vanderbilt University, Loyola University, the University of Michigan, Texas A&M University, and Louisiana State Medical Center.

MDAS offers an efficient, low-cost means of making external databases (such as MEDLINE and the H.W. Wilson indexes) available for full searching through your NOTIS public catalog interface.

We hope you won't miss the chance to try out MDAS at the NOTIS demonstration booth during this month's American Library Association (ALA) Annual Conference in Dallas (booths 479, 481, and 483).

### A better way

What are the advantages of MDAS? Why is it better than alternative methods of searching external databases? Here are five important reasons:

*It's integrated.* Library patrons have only

one place to search.

*It's user-friendly.* Patrons can search using the same syntax they use for bibliographic holdings.

*It's resource-efficient.* It builds upon already-installed hardware and software.

*It's flexible.* MDAS gives the library the capability of custom-designing display screens and field labels—all by means of easy, online transactions.

*It's cost-effective.* MDAS is a one-time purchase, freeing you of short-term lease obligations.

And there are other reasons, too.

### The library of the future

To NOTIS Systems, MDAS is more than just another new product. As a knowledge-access tool, it is full of possibilities. We see it as a crucial step in our efforts to build a bridge between today's library and the library of the future. We believe MDAS is a gateway to capabilities we are only beginning to imagine. ■

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. . . and more!

## NUGIM '89

Your packet of registration materials for this year's NOTIS Users' Group Meeting (Chicago, September 27-28) has already been mailed. Please call if you haven't received it. It is packed with helpful information about sessions, workshops, accommodations, transportation, and more.

To be assured of a place in the sessions of your choice, please register now!

# Vanderbilt blazes trail for NOTIS Multiple Database Access System

*Vanderbilt University's library automation project staff have been pioneers in bringing the multiple database access capability online. Here is a status report from Vanderbilt's Ramona Steffey, Automation Project Librarian.*

Over the past two years, the Jean and Alexander Heard Library of Vanderbilt University has worked closely with NOTIS in the development of the Multiple Database Access System (MDAS). Recently, the library passed some significant milestones in the MDAS project.

## Milestones

- MEDLINE, the first database to be converted to MARC format for use with NOTIS software, was put into production on staff terminals on January 19. Selected public terminals were "turned on" to MEDLINE January 25. At that time, the database consisted of the 331,690 records indexed by the National Library of Medicine (NLM) during 1988.

- In April, Vanderbilt reloaded its MEDLINE database using the 1989 conversion program provided by NOTIS. This program incorporates the year-end changes made by NLM to several fields and subheadings. The Vanderbilt subset of MEDLINE now corresponds to the NLM current file; that is, it includes all 1988 citations plus citations for all articles indexed through May 1989. The file contains 303,686 records with approximately 25,000 to 30,000 records added each month. At the end of the year the entire file will be reloaded and older records dropped.

## NOTISes

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## DASD requirements

Disk storage space required for the current file is 2,071 MB. We purchased two IBM 3380 DASDs to accommodate the files. One of these drives is almost ninety percent full; the other is required for sort space during index regeneration. We plan to purchase another 3380 drive to load three of the H. W. Wilson databases in the next few months.

## User Response

Response from our patrons has been generally positive. Library and medical center staff received training as soon as the system was made available. We identified a group of volunteers to evaluate the NOTIS version of MEDLINE through a survey sent to Medical Center staff last October. Many of these health professionals said they were currently searching MEDLINE through other services such as BRS Colleague, the NLM system and its menu-driven version the GRATEFUL MED, and DIALOG. We plan to conduct a follow-up survey in a few months, after the users have had time to experiment with this new means of access to the database. ■

# Systems Update

## Converting to CICS 1.7

by Donald J. Reilly  
Lead Programmer, Technical Resources Group

**Last fall IBM announced it would be dropping support for CICS release 1.6.1 under MVS. Consequently, NOTIS Systems will also be dropping support of the older release. All NOTIS MVS sites will be required to convert to CICS release 1.7. This article summarizes the main issues involved in making the move from CICS 1.6.1 to 1.7.**

have not changed for CICS 1.7. Simply re-assemble your 1.6.1 tables with the 1.7 macro library in the SYSLIB. The following tables, however, require extensive editing if they are to be used efficiently.

### Destination Control Table (DCT)

IBM has not changed the DCT format for CICS 1.7, but they have added new supplied destinations for communicating problems in the system and file control messages, etc.

### File Control Table (FCT)

IBM has made significant changes in their File Control Program, requiring changes or additions to the FCT macro definition. Local shared resources (LSR), a VSAM option that allows buffer sharing between data sets with the same CISIZE, is now the default. We recommend using LSR with all NOTIS VSAM files. (For a more complete discussion of LSR, see our February issue, NOTISes/39, page 17.) Under MVS/XA, you can have up to eight LSRPOOLS. The default is LSRPOOL=1. There are also some minor changes to the SERVREQ parameter, i.e., GET is now READ, PUT is now ADD. SERVREQ=SHARE is no longer valid.

You now have the option of specifying DSNAME='your application data set' and DISP=disposition. The File Control Program uses these two parameters to allocate the data set dynamically upon first access. The application data sets no longer need to be in the JCL, so if one is accidentally deleted it will not prevent CICS from coming up. (This is especially useful if the CICS has multiple applications running under it.) Also, the CEMT I DA

Upgrading to CICS release 1.7 involves two major tasks: first, converting the CICS region containing the NOTIS software to 1.7; and, second, readying NOTIS software to run in a CICS 1.7 environment.

### 1. Converting the CICS region

Converting a CICS region running NOTIS to CICS 1.7, is a fairly simple task if CICS 1.7 is installed and running somewhere in your environment. You must take four basic steps to convert your CICS region to 1.7:

- 1) edit and re-assemble your CICS tables using the CICS 1.7 macros
- 2) allocate and initialize data sets whose structure has changed from CICS 1.6.1
- 3) edit your startup JCL to use the new CICS libraries
- 4) tune storage parameters for the region

### Tables

CICS uses approximately fifteen tables to store control information about its environment and initialization options. Most of these

command now shows you the data set name as well as the DDNAME. You can alter this name dynamically and bring a different data set in under this DDNAME. This type of flexibility is very helpful in testing. Since the application data sets are now out of the Startup deck, you have the option of consolidating several CICS regions under a single PROC, simply by having a variable that represents a high-level node for the region-specific data sets.

The OPEN=INITIAL parameter is no longer valid. CICS takes the FILSTAT parameter as the initial allocation status. The FILSTAT parameter defaults to FILSTAT=(CLOSED, ENABLED). The data set will be left closed at initialization, but is available to be dynamically allocated and opened upon first access. The FILSTAT parameter should be allowed to default.

If you are using LSR, the LSRPOOL is not built until the first data set of that pool is opened. If you happen to be the first person to open a file and cause the LSRPOOL build processing to occur, there is a noticeable delay while memory is allocated and the pool is set up. If this is a problem, simply force one of the data sets in the pool open at initialization and the pool will be built at that time.

#### System Initialization Table (SIT)

There are several changes to the System Initialization Table (SIT) options. The APPLID=parm has been moved from the Terminal Control Table initial macro into the SIT, along with the GMTEXT parameter. You will also have to specify a GRPLIST, which is the GROUP of RDO defined entries you want built at initialization.

RDO has been enhanced and extended. IBM-supplied entries are now distributed in RDO format. Entries can be maintained through a batch program provided by IBM or through the CEDA online transaction. The CEDA transaction will not allow you to alter any entry in a group list whose name starts with DFH. However, you are allowed to copy a group to a different name and then modify the entries. There are a number of reasons why

## What's New in 1.7

CICS 1.7 represents a major change in direction. A few of its new features are

- ✓ a different approach to file control
- ✓ new ways of handling files, security, and other external interfaces with the operating system
- ✓ the concept of "implied open" for VSAM data sets. All VSAM files remain closed until first access unless explicitly requested to be opened on CICS initialization. On first access, the file is dynamically allocated and opened, transparently.
- ✓ the expansion of the operator identifier in the terminal control table (TCT) terminal entry from three to eight characters.
- ✓ introduction of the "auto-install" option. This is a way of dynamically describing terminals to CICS. Auto-install eliminates the necessity of defining, in the TCT, each terminal that might need access to CICS.

you might want to alter the CICS-supplied entries, e.g., shutting down CICS internal security or changing priorities.

For more information, see *CICS 1.7 Resource Definition Guide (ONLINE)* for a complete description of RDO. There are several new initialization options outlined in *CICS 1.7 Resource Definition Guide (MACRO)*.

#### Terminal Control Table

The biggest change to the Terminal Control Table (TCT) is in the initialization macro (DFHTCT TYPE=INITIAL). Several options were moved into the SIT. After you delete these parameters, the TCT should assemble cleanly.

#### Allocating New Data sets

Assuming that you will want to re-use as many of your 1.6.1 region-specific data sets as possible, you will only need to allocate a new Restart Data set and a new DFHCSD (where RDO entries live). You are required to have a DFHRSD file under CICS 1.7 if you do any type of journaling. (See *CICS 1.7 Installation and Operations Guide* for JCL to allocate the new format RSD).

If you used a DFHCSD file under CICS 1.6.1, the format has changed so you'll need a new one (see *CICS 1.7 Installation and Operations Guide* for JCL to allocate and initialize DFHCSD for 1.7).

#### Editing Start-up JCL

Startup JCL will not undergo any major changes. If you have moved your application VSAM data set names into the FCT macros, then you should remove the entries in the JCL. You will need to change the STEPLIB and DFHRPL concatenation lists to point to the new CICS 1.7 load libraries. Insert the new DFHRSD and DFHCSD names in the startup JCL. You should now be ready to attempt to bring up the new CICS 1.7 region.

#### How to Tune Storage for 1.7

IBM has moved the VSAM buffers from LSQA into OSCOR. OSCOR is specifically allocated by a SIT parameter of the same name. The OSCOR parm used for CICS 1.6.1 is too low for 1.7. Therefore, you must find a new value for OSCOR that allows you to open all

your files without problems.

One approach is this: With CICS up and running, open all your VSAM files (CEMT S DA,OPE,ALL). You will either get a message saying some of the files failed to open, or, more likely, the CICS region will crash.

If you are running a CICS dedicated to NOTIS, 640K of OSCOR has been used successfully. This is probably as good a starting point as any. However, the method used to determine the proper amount of OSCOR depends on whether or not you have an online performance monitor to tell you what your memory allocation looks like. If so, start with 640K of OSCOR, open all the files and begin to pare it back to within ten to fifteen percent of what you are actually using. You will want to leave some leeway here, because open/close processing can cause some fragmentation of this area. If not, you'll have to use trial and error to get a value for OSCOR that allows you to open all your files and still not experience SOS conditions.

We recommend that you periodically examine your CICS shutdown statistics. There is a wealth of tuning information here as well as early signs of trouble brewing such as storage violation counts and potential thrashing problems. If all your data sets are under LSR you will probably want to eliminate all string and buffer waits. Under LSR, all storage for strings is pre-allocated so it does not cost anything in terms of storage to eliminate all string waits. Buffer waits should also be eliminated. Although there is some storage involved, eliminating buffer waits will pay off in terms of performance. Read IBM's recommendations for using the SHRCTL macro in the FCT for explicit control over the allocation of strings and buffers for an LSRPOOL.

## 2. NOTIS Software changes

When the region is up and running with all available files open, your region is converted. Now re-assemble your NOTIS code for CICS programs against the CICS 1.7 macros and DSECTS, and add them to the DFHRPL. For more information about making changes to NOTIS software required for CICS 1.7, see *NOTISes/36* (November, 1988), page 5.

After the NOTIS code is ready to work in a CICS 1.7 environment, you are set to go. ■

# User Services Notes

## Circulation tips: Putting 'holds' ahead of 'recalls'

by Ben Schapiro  
User Services Librarian

**It is possible for a terminal operator to override the NOTIS system's ordering of the recall/hold queue. Here's how.**

The default ordering of recall/hold requests is rush recalls, recalls, then holds. Within a category, requests are arranged on a "first come, first served" basis. You can, however, resequence the queue by placing a hold ahead of a recall or even ahead of a rush recall if you wish.

Adjusting the queue is simple, but it does require operator intervention at the item record level. Of course, the operator must have the appropriate security level (in RECO-RD=RECALL and RECORD=ITEM) to place recall/holds and to change the recall/hold statement number (FIELDS=(10) in RECORD=ITEM).

The technique for changing the order of requests in the queue is straightforward:

- 1) display the item record's charge and recall/hold fields
- 2) determine which recall you want the hold to precede
- 3) tab to the statement number of the hold to be moved

- 4) replace its statement number with that of the recall and update the record

That's all there is to it. The system will insert the hold in its new position based on the new statement number. Any subsequent recalls will continue to file after the most recently entered recall and will not displace the inserted hold from its position in the queue.

The screen prints below illustrate the results of moving a hold ahead of a recall and then adding an additional recall. If you compare the charge times (PLACED:), it will be apparent that two recalls and a hold were placed. The hold was inserted ahead of the second recall, and then a third recall was placed which had no effect on the modified queue.

In terms of due dates, the inserted hold is treated like a recall. The system checks only to see if there is another recall in the queue, not if the next request is a recall or not. If there is another recall in the queue, then the borrower preceding the inserted hold will be given a recall due date and the circulation terminal will display the recall message.

*Thanks to John Bodfish of NOTIS for help with reading the code, and Brenda Johnson of the University of Michigan for raising the question. ■*

Screen displays—see "Putting 'holds' ahead of 'recalls'" on preceding page

```
LTXP MORE ADD7675-002-0001
DISPLAY ITEM RECORD
S21S
XP BOOK
Sanchez-Scott, Milcha.
Dog lady ; and, The Cuban swimmer : two one-act plays / by Milcha Sanchez-
Scott. -- a New York : b Theatre Communications Group, c c1984.
(Plays in process ; v. 5, no. 12)
=>002 STATUS: 1D LOCN: MAIN COPY: 2
CALL: |b 812.54;S211d ITEMS: 1
LINKED ITEM SUBRECORD (1 OF 3)
ENUM/CHRON:
MIDSPINE:
DEPT LOCATN:
TEMP LOCATN:
ITEM ID: 3 5556 900 133 240 ITEM ID:
LOAN CODE: norm (normal loan) PIECES: 1
REVIEW: CIRCULATION CATALOG ACTION: none
STATUS: A (active) OVERDUE NOTICES: 0 CREATED: 04/27/89
SUB STATUS: A (active) AVAIL NOTICES: 0 UPDATED: 05/10/89
CHARGES: 11 RECALLS & HOLDS: 4 LAST USE: 05/10/89
BROWSES: 1 VALUE: 0.00
NOTE:
```

```
LTXP MORE ADD7675-002-0001
DISPLAY ITEM RECORD
S21S
XP BOOK
Sanchez-Scott, Milcha.
Dog lady ; and, The Cuban swimmer : two one-act plays / by Milcha Sanchez-
Scott. -- a New York : b Theatre Communications Group, c c1984.
(Plays in process ; v. 5, no. 12)
=>002 STATUS: 1D LOCN: MAIN COPY: 2
CALL: |b 812.54;S211d ITEMS: 1
CHARGE INFORMATION
PATRON ID: 2 5556 000 123 457 fac NOTIS Test System
DATE DUE: 08/08/89 RECALL DATE DUE: 05/24/89
CHARGED: 05/10/89 08:37 AM AT Northwestern Univ Library S21S
COMMENT:
RECALL AND HOLD INFORMATION
AVAILABLE NOTICES:
NEEDED NOTICES: none
001 PATRON ID:8 5556 000 062 454 staf NOTIS Test System
PLACED: 05/10/89 10:27 AM WILL GET AT: Northwestern Univ Library
NOT NEEDED AFTER: none Recall
COMMENT:
```

```
LTXP DSUB ADD7675-002-0001
DISPLAY ITEM RECORD
S21S
XP BOOK
Sanchez-Scott, Milcha.
Dog lady ; and, The Cuban swimmer : two one-act plays / by Milcha Sanchez-
Scott. -- a New York : b Theatre Communications Group, c c1984.
(Plays in process ; v. 5, no. 12)
=>002 STATUS: 1D LOCN: MAIN COPY: 2
CALL: |b 812.54;S211d ITEMS: 1
RECALL AND HOLD INFORMATION (CONTINUED)
002 PATRON ID:8 5556 000 060 110 und NOTIS Library
PLACED: 05/10/89 10:30 AM WILL GET AT: Northwestern Univ Library
NOT NEEDED AFTER: none Hold
COMMENT:
003 PATRON ID:2 5556 000 442 667 fac NOTIS Library
PLACED: 05/10/89 10:28 AM WILL GET AT: Northwestern Univ Library
NOT NEEDED AFTER: none Recall
COMMENT:
004 PATRON ID:8 5556 000 063 940 und NOTIS Library
PLACED: 05/10/89 10:36 AM WILL GET AT: Northwestern Univ Library
NOT NEEDED AFTER: none Recall
COMMENT:
```

# Technical Support

## Speeding up NOTIS batch processing

by Jerry Specht  
Chief Systems Engineer

Several NOTIS sites have found that increasing the number of VSAM buffers can significantly reduce batch process-

Changing the specifications for VSAM data buffers and index buffers can dramatically improve batch performance. The rules of thumb are:

- for files that the program processes randomly, you want to have as many index buffers (BUFNI) as possible
- for files that the program processes sequentially, you want to have as many data buffers (BUFND) as possible

### Where to specify buffers

There are three places where the number of buffers may be specified.

#### VSAM cluster DEFINE

Buffers for both batch and online processing may be specified in the VSAM cluster DEFINE. Because the buffer requirements are not the same for online processing and for batch processing, we do not recommend this approach. Note: online buffer specification is done in the File Control Table as described in our February issue (NOTISes/39, page 17).

#### File ACB

Buffers for a given file may also be specified in the file's ACB in the batch program(s) which read or write to it. This is generally the approach we have used. We have discovered,

however, that in some cases no specification has been made (in which case it is defaulting to two data buffers and one index buffer), and that in other cases the specification is sub-optimal.

If too many buffers are specified, there may not be enough available memory to accommodate them together with the programs and other files. In the future, we will code all of our ACBs with an appropriate buffer specification. If your partition is large enough, you may want to increase the specifications in the ACB or in the DD or DLBL statement as described below.

#### DD or DDL statement

Finally, buffers may be specified in the MVS DD statement (DLBL in VSE). This overrides whatever is specified in the ACB. Under MVS (and VSE 4.1 or higher), BUFND/BUFNI or BUFSP may be used. Under VSE 3.1 or earlier, BUFND/BUFNI are not valid and BUFSP must be used.

Once again, for sequential processing you want to increase data buffers. With MVS, this means increasing BUFND. With VSE, the system will determine whether the processing is sequential or direct (based on the MACRF values in the ACB) and, after allocating BUFND data buffers and BUFNI+1 index buffers, will allocate the rest of the BUFSP space to data buffers. If BUFND/BUFNI are not specified in the ACB, then it defaults to two data buffers, two (1+1) index buffers, and will allocate the rest of the space to additional data buffers.

Each data buffer is equal to the CISIZE of the data component and each index buffer is equal to the CISIZE of the index component. (These values may be obtained from a LIST-CAT.)

### Performance Benchmarks

How much improvement can you expect by adjusting VSAM buffer specifications? Following are some results achieved at Northwestern University Library and Cornell University Library.

#### Index building

By increasing the BUFND specification from the default (BUFND=2, BUFNI=1) to BUFND=4, BUFNI=4 in the ACB for LINDX in LB950BAL, the time required for the load step in the index-building jobs was decreased by half. For example, the LB340 step of the LB330 author/title index load was reduced from 25 minutes to 13 minutes.

#### Bib File indexing

Changing the specification for the bib file (LIFILE) in LB330BAL and LB370BAL from BUFND=3, BUFNI=8 to BUFND=4, BUFNI=4, decreased the generation time for the author/title and subject indexes by ten percent.

#### Order/holdings file REPRO

By adding a specification of BUFSP=23552 (five 4096-byte data buffers and two 1536-byte

index buffers) to the DLBL for the order/holdings file, the time required for REPROing this file to tape was reduced from 23.5 minutes to 16 minutes—a thirty-percent decrease. The system took the two default data buffers and one default index buffer, added another index buffer, and then allocated the rest of the space (32552 - 11264 = 12288) to data buffers. There was space for three additional data buffers (12288 ÷ 4096 = 3).

If you have an 8192-byte CISIZE for your file's data component, then you are probably going to need to have a BUFSP of at least 36864 in order to get four data buffers.

#### Creating Linked Item Records

Bill Turner at Cornell University has reported that the time required to run their LD08X job was reduced from thirteen hours to four hours by increasing BUFND from the default value of '2' to '7' and increasing BUFNI from the default value of '1' to '5' for the LIMAINH file. By similar additions, Cornell achieved (roughly) a twenty-percent reduction in the time required to run LD016. ■



## documentation alerts

Documentation Alerts gives you advance notice of additions and corrections to NOTIS documentation.

#### PROBLEM:

The security description for the bill and fine record in the NOTIS Library Implementation Manual, chapter C4a p.31 is incorrect.

#### SOLUTION:

Change the field "1" description from "Not Used" to "Can enter negative amounts." Delete the words *if you select "1," do not use any other value.* In the next paragraph, add "1" to the list of suggested security authorizations for supervisory-level personnel. Revised pages will be issued later this year. ■

# News From Users

## Kent State passes the one-million mark

On April 9, 1989, the number of bibliographic records in CATALYST, the Kent State University Libraries online catalog, exceeded one million. This milestone was reached with the loading of records from KSU regional campuses. Almost 140,000 records were loaded from Bibliofile (a CD-ROM collection of MARC records) following a two-year conversion project. The converted records increased the size of the catalog by fifteen percent.

CATALYST users can identify which campus holds a given item by means of the

location name appearing above the call number, and by the processing unit code appearing on the index screen. Each campus has been designated as a separate processing unit.

Regional campuses will implement online circulation to facilitate the rapid transfer of materials. Until that time, requests from library users for items from other campuses will be treated as interlibrary loan transactions. ■

*Submitted by Jeffrey N. Gatten, Systems Librarian.*

## What's In A Name?

Thanks to all who have heeded our call for names given to NOTIS online public catalogs.

This month we have three additions.

The fortunate winner of the OPAC-naming contest at the **University of Utah** took home an IBM PC Convertible, donated by the local IBM dealer. The winning name: **UNIS**. Thanks to Lee Warthen, Assistant Director and Head of Public Service, for passing the news to NOTISes.

**Grand Valley State University** chose the name **BEACON** from entries submitted by patrons during National Library Week in April, reports Project Manager Elaine Stokes.

Congratulations to the **Milton Eisenhower Library** at **Johns Hopkins University** for bringing the online catalog into operation earlier this year. **JANUS** was the name chosen for the OPAC.

Here's an updated list.

### OPAC NAMES

|                 |   |
|-----------------|---|
| <b>ACORN</b>    | Vanderbilt University                   |
| <b>BEACON</b>   | Grand Valley State University           |
| <b>BISON</b>    | SUNY Buffalo                            |
| <b>BYLINE</b>   | Brigham Young University                |
| <b>CATALYST</b> | Kent State University                   |
| <b>CHESTER</b>  | West Chester University                 |
| <b>CLIO</b>     | Columbia University                     |
| <b>DELCAT</b>   | University of Delaware                  |
| <b>ELIXIR</b>   | SUNY-Binghamton                         |
| <b>JANUS</b>    | Johns Hopkins University                |
| <b>LOLA</b>     | Louisiana State University              |
| <b>LUIS*</b>    | University of Texas-El Paso             |
| <b>LUMINA</b>   | University of Minnesota                 |
| <b>LUNA</b>     | N.A.S.A.                                |
| <b>MINERVA</b>  | University of Louisville                |
| <b>MIRLYN</b>   | University of Michigan                  |
| <b>MUSE</b>     | McGill University                       |
| <b>OASIS</b>    | University of Iowa                      |
| <b>ORBIS</b>    | National Geographic,<br>Yale University |
| <b>PENLIN</b>   | University of Pennsylvania              |
| <b>PITTCAT</b>  | University of Pittsburgh                |
| <b>QLINE</b>    | Queen's University                      |
| <b>ROCKY</b>    | Iona College                            |
| <b>STARS</b>    | SUNY-Stony Brook                        |
| <b>TOPCAT</b>   | Western Kentucky University             |
| <b>UNICAT</b>   | Burroughs Wellcome Company              |
| <b>UNIS</b>     | University of Utah                      |
| <b>UNLOC</b>    | University of Notre Dame                |
| <b>VIRGO</b>    | University of Virginia                  |

\*Pronounced loo-EECE

## Who's Implementing What?

NOTIS users are usually happy to help others. The information provided here, which supplements the information in the *NOTIS User Directory*, may be of assistance to NOTIS users who wish to contact other sites in order to exchange information.

Please consider giving information about your library's implementation schedule to your NOTIS User Services Librarian.

### Columbia University:

|              |                            |
|--------------|----------------------------|
| June 1989    | OPAC (4.5)                 |
| August 1989  | Cataloging                 |
| January 1990 | Circulation (main library) |
| 1990-1991    | Circulation & reserves     |

### SUNY-Binghamton:

|              |                |
|--------------|----------------|
| May 1989     | OPAC           |
| May 1989     | Circulation    |
| June 1989    | Course Reserve |
| January 1990 | Acquisitions   |

### University of Louisville:

|             |               |
|-------------|---------------|
| May 1989    | KWB searching |
| August 1988 | Circulation   |

### University of South Alabama:

|               |             |
|---------------|-------------|
| November 1989 | Circulation |
|---------------|-------------|

### University of Virginia:

|                |              |
|----------------|--------------|
| September 1989 | Circulation  |
| June 1990      | Acquisitions |
| June 1990      | Serials      |

### University of Wisconsin-Madison:

|              |             |
|--------------|-------------|
| Summer, 1989 | Circulation |
|--------------|-------------|

### Virginia Commonwealth:

|              |                       |
|--------------|-----------------------|
| March 1989   | Cataloging            |
| June 1989    | Acquisitions          |
| August 1989  | Circulation           |
| January 1990 | Online Public Catalog |

### Western Kentucky University:

|              |                            |
|--------------|----------------------------|
| May 1989     | Installation of 4.5        |
| Summer 1989  | Online Public Catalog      |
| January 1990 | Convert Bibliographic File |
| July 1990    | Circulation                |

### Yale University:

|                  |                       |
|------------------|-----------------------|
| January 1989     | Online Public Catalog |
| July 1989        | Acquisitions          |
| July 1989 (late) | Circulation           |
| Fall 1989        | Serials               |
| Early 1990       | Cataloging            |

## Vote on conversion/MFHL preferences

If you are interested in helping us prioritize the list of NOTIS conversion programs to be modified to accommodate MFHL (MARC Format for Holdings and Locations), please call Jena Norman at (312) 866-0691 and ask for a ballot. (Only one ballot per institution, please.) ■

## Maintenance fees to increase for some NOTIS sites

In the near future, NOTIS Systems will be notifying those sites which currently pay less than the standard software maintenance rates that their assessment will be increasing. We will be standardizing our assessment of maintenance fees "across the board" in order to achieve a more equitable fee structure. ■

## Agenda

*The NOTIS Circulation Interest Group will be meeting at ALA on Tuesday June 27 from 2:00 to 4:00.*

- ✓ *New Business*
- ✓ *Review of first prioritized wish list*
- ✓ *Updates from our NOTIS liaison: What is happening in Circ?*
- ✓ *Second wish list*

# Special Interest Group News

## LOEX: An important training resource for NOTIS libraries

by David Gregory  
University of Iowa Libraries

**NOTIS installations are sharing NOTIS-related instructional materials, thanks to a unique library information exchange.**

The NOTIS Users Special Interest Group on Training and Instruction established a Documentation Clearinghouse Committee at NUGM '88. The committee met formally for the first time at this year's ALA (American Library Association) Midwinter Meeting and decided to investigate the use of Eastern Michigan University's LOEX (Library Orientation/Instruction Exchange) as a means of sharing instructional materials among NOTIS institutions.

A survey confirmed that libraries are effectively exchanging NOTIS-related materials via LOEX.

Since 1972, LOEX has served as a central exchange for library orientation and bibliographic instruction programs and materials in the United States and Canada. Initially funded by the Council on Library Resources, LOEX is now a self-supporting agency that offers a variety of services to its institutional members for an annual fee of \$50.00.

The agency's quarterly newsletter, *LOEX News*, contains lists of materials available for purchase or loan, bibliographies, announcements of meetings and conferences relating to

bibliographic instruction (BI), reports on current activities at regional and state clearinghouses, and a "Letters" column that facilitates direct exchange of information and materials among readers. In addition to its newsletter, LOEX maintains a Speakers Database, a BI Information and Referral Database (containing information on activities and programs at over 830 academic libraries in the U.S.), and—most importantly—a collection of some 38,000 sample instructional materials, from which members may borrow at no additional cost.

Many NOTIS libraries are members of LOEX and have contributed NOTIS-related training or instructional tools to the clearinghouse collection. According to Teresa Mensching, director of LOEX, the agency welcomes not only additional NOTIS libraries to the clearinghouse, but additional involvement on the part of its current members.

At the request of the Documentation Clearinghouse Committee, Ms. Mensching has prepared the following bibliography of NOTIS-related materials currently available from LOEX.

The committee prepared the following guidelines for submission of NOTIS-related materials to the LOEX collection.

*David Gregory chairs the Documentation Clearinghouse Committee, NOTIS Users Special Interest Group on Training and Instruction.*

### Bibliography of NOTIS-related materials available from LOEX:

#### Central State University

*Using the LUIS Online Catalog to Find Books & Materials:* guide.

#### Cornell University

*Letter to faculty:* general initial information re: OPAC.

*Letter to faculty:* Introductory sessions on the OPAC.

*Online Catalog:* brochure.

*Online Catalog:* flipchart.

*Teaching Techniques for the Online Catalog:* workshop materials.

*Teaching the Online Catalog:* instructional & educational objectives.

#### Eastern Michigan University

*Brief Guide to LUIS:* handout.

#### Indiana State University

*Brief Guide to LUIS:* handout.

*Getting Started with LUIS:* guide (9 p.)

*LUIS In-class Exercise.*

*LUIS is coming:* poster.

*LUIS News Release and Calendar of Events.*

*LUIS publicity materials - schedule, in-house announcements, newspaper articles & advertisements.*

*LUIS Staff Training:* manual (8 p.)

*LUIS Update:* news sheet.

*Introducing LUIS: A Library User Information System that goes to work for you:* brochure.

*Library User Information System:* brochure.

*Online Catalog Demonstration:* lecture outline (for faculty sessions).

*Searching for Library Materials Using LUIS:* exercise.

*Sign-up Sheet for Computer Room Tours.*

#### Loyola University of Chicago

*LUIS Information Desk Training:* lecture outlines, exercises, handouts.

*Using LUIS:* set of search guides for end users.

#### Northeast Missouri State University

*Introducing LUIS:* brochure.

#### Northwestern University

*Educating the Online Catalog User:* lecture outline.

*LUIS Demonstration:* lecture outline with screens.

*LUIS Information:* brochure.

*The Library at Your Fingertips:* guide to subject searching.

*Model Program Materials for Educating the Online Catalog User:* guidelines.

#### St. Louis Community College at Forest Park

*LUIS: Library User Information System:* book-mark.

*LUIS: Library User Information System:* brochure.

*LUIS: The Online Catalog for St. Louis Community College Libraries:* brochure.

*LUIS Tutorial:* CAI program.

*What do you think about LUIS?:* evaluation form.

#### University of Iowa

*OASIS Training Manual (3 vol.):* (NOTIS) training manual for library staff.

*OASIS training and public relations documents:* a variety of (NOTIS) training and PR tools developed by the University of Iowa Libraries Automation Office.

#### University of Michigan

*50-minute presentation:* lecture outline with workstations.

*50-minute presentation:* lecture outline without workstations.

*50-minute presentation:* discussion method outline with workstations.

*50-minute presentation:* discussion method outline without workstations.

*50-minute presentation:* learning cycle method.

*20-minute presentation:* lecture outline with workstations.

*20-minute presentation:* lecture outline without workstations.

*20-minute presentation:* discussion method outline without workstations.

*10-minute presentation:* lecture outline with workstations.

*10-minute presentation:* lecture outline without workstations.

*Dialing into MIRLYN.*

*MIRLYN Exercises.*

*MIRLYN Quick Guide:* brochure.

*Study Guide for Use with MIRLYN*

*Presentation:* exercises and copies of

transparencies.

#### University of Notre Dame

*UNLOC-Basic Introduction*: lecture outline including Boolean operators.

#### University of Pennsylvania

*Finding Items by Subject Using the Library of Congress Subject Headings*.

#### University of South Alabama

*LUIS: the Online Catalog*: brochure.

*NOTIS/LUIS Public Services Manual*.

*Using LUIS*: brochure.

*To Search by Subject*: brochure.

#### University of Southern Florida

*How to Use LUIS the Online Catalog*: flipchart.

*How to Use LUIS the Online Catalog*: 2-page guide.

*LUIS: Library User Information Service*:

brochure.

#### University of Virginia

*VIRGO: Virginia Online*: flipchart.

*VIRGO: Virginia Online*: quick reference guide.

*VIRGO 101*: a self-paced tutorial (20 p.)

#### Wichita State University

*Finding Books in the Library*—Excerpt from "The Library Handbook for Wichita State University."

*LUIS: Advanced User's Tip Sheet*: guide.

*Using LUIS at Wichita State University*: guide. ■

#### More information

NOTIS libraries wishing to obtain additional information regarding LOEX membership, services, etc. should contact

Teresa Mensching  
Director, LOEX Clearinghouse  
University Library, Eastern Michigan  
University  
Ypsilanti, Michigan 48197  
(313) 487-0168

#### Guidelines for contributing NOTIS-related materials to LOEX:

1. Any and all types of training or instructional materials are appropriate for the LOEX collection. Training tools can include, but are not limited to, the following:

- curricula
- syllabi
- scheduling tools
- training manuals
- memory aids and cheat sheets
- transparencies
- workbooks and guided practice exercises
- checklists of skills
- trainer/training evaluation forms
- brochures, bookmarks, flip charts
- signs (promotional, instructional, etc.)
- instructional audio or video
- CAI (computer-assisted instruction) or CDI (computer-directed instruction) packages
- hypermedia (and beyond!)

2. LOEX welcomes materials related to staff as well as end-user training.

3. Items can be submitted to LOEX individually, or a group of related materials can be "packaged" as a single unit—e.g., a three-ring binder of "NOTIS Staff Training Materials from the University of . . ."

4. All NOTIS-related materials should be identified as such. If the title of a work does not make the NOTIS relationship clear, an accompanying description should. This will facilitate the identification of relevant materials by NOTIS users, as well as the compilation of occasional bibliographies of NOTIS-related materials.

5. Finally, the title of an item or its accompanying description should indicate (if applicable):

- the type of item at hand (i.e., promotional brochure, training manual, checklist of skills, etc.)
- the item's intended audience (i.e., public or staff)
- the NOTIS module to which the item belongs (e.g., OPAC, Acquisitions, Circulation, etc.).

# Troubleshooting

By Jerry Specht, Chief Systems Engineer

This column is a regular feature of NOTISES. As we encounter problems which we plan to include in the "Troubleshooting Guide" (Appendix E to the Installation & Operations Manual) we list them here in NOTISES so you won't have to wait for a new release in order to be aware of them. If you have suggestions, send them to Jerry Specht.

It is our intention that you take these troubleshooting pages and append them to the February 1989 "Troubleshooting Guide." The problems

have been, and will continue to be, assigned "temporary" numbers beginning with V200, so that they will be in sequence. We will periodically issue an updated index which will encompass both these problems and the ones already in the guide. Once per year we will send you an entirely new guide in which all of the problems which have appeared in NOTISES since the last publication of the guide will be integrated and assigned permanent numbers.

**Note on &NTBFFND install option:** The entry for NTBFFND in the NOTIS *Installation & Operations Manual* Appendix B1 ("Which Programs Use Which Installation Options") is incorrect. LC610BAL does not use NTBFFND; LC611BAL does use NTBFFND.

**Note on Problem V264:** (see April 1989 NOTISES) This problem—and also the NOTIS *Programmer's Reference Manual* documentation for LC530/2 and LC630/2—are incorrect in stating that the update of the item index and the patron index occurs prior to the writing of the item or patron records themselves. The index update occurs last. A revised version of this problem is included in this issue as V299. We nevertheless, as a matter of principle, suggest that you specify "LOG=YES" for all of the files which are updated online (or simply all of the files, *period*). Specifying it for files which are not updated online does not incur any additional overhead).

## Problem V297

**Terminals are spontaneously signed off \*** from LTxx or LCzz transactions at times of heavy system use. This happens from a clear screen rather than when you are in a record (and thus is distinct from an AKCT abend).

**Causes/Solution:** The user who reported this was a VSE 3.1 customer with CICS 1.7.0. The problem was fixed by applying the following ten PTFs from IBM: UL37299, UL37672, UL38981, UL39270, UL39601, UL40315, UL42904, UL43125, UL43781, and UL44860. VSE customers who are on CICS 1.7.0 who have not implemented these should do so.

\* **Boldface type in the problem description indicates index terms and/or main topics.**