


December 2, 1996

MEMORANDUM

To: Dennis Stropes
From: W. David Wimberly 
Copy: ISM-L
Tom Dorre
Subject: November Status Report

General

University of Tennessee

I participated in the two day UT presentation/discussion. I believe they got out of the visit what they were looking for, though I do not know what they will do with it. Their system environment is *so very* different, even though we both use the same language -- Natural. Sadly, and in a twisted way, it was good to see that there are places facing greater challenges than our own.

Report Output Destinations

I developed a document that can be provided to users wanting to do distributed printing from BASIS applications and provided a copy to Pete, Rufus, and David Stowers. It explains what can be printed within BASIS, what steps are required to enable and request print, and how to request a printer setup through the Service Center. I've not received any feedback from either Pete or the Service Center on this document. I also updated the other USA documentation and loaded it to Predict for online help, adding a HELP command to the application.

I have also added online *print* capability from the USA lists, as I committed to do in the turn-over meeting held with the Service Center. I have informed them that this is available and that I could teach them how to use this to print the same as other BASIS users, but this offer has not been accepted. The intent was to allow them to *test out* printers as they were setup using the same facility as the BASIS users.

I have requested a printer setup for our Pike HP printer that bypasses the file server. This is supposed to be possible and will allow us to gain some experience with this type setup. David Stowers has acknowledged receipt of the request (made November 6) but I have not heard any more nor received any status update.

I am not aware of any resolution of previously reported printing issues: printing to BA's file servers, printing to the two law school printers, or printing to Mac direct connect printers.

Training

The training with David Savage, Cindy Knott and Ken Osredker has evolved into on-demand question and answer sessions. These are prompted by their development activities -- primarily converting existing lists to super-lists.

Script/DCF

I provided support and assistance to Pete in the testing and setup of a document *profile* that could be used to generate the BASIS Quick Reference Cards. This way, these short references can also be postscript files available for download and Pete can manage all his documentation from one source -- BASISDOC -- while still making it available on the Web.

Labor

Programs and jobs were developed to migrate data for the *test* population from PROD to DEMO and TEST. These have been executed to rebuild our TEST and DEMO systems.

Two bugs were found in the PD Target function. One was the lack of an edit to require a CCC when a new gross amount line was used and the other was due to an AEV conversion being performed as a non-Rank 0 rule. These were fixed and the change moved to PROD.

Purchasing/AP

Further meetings were held regarding credit memos and accounting rules, and further changes were made to the AP files based upon these meetings and other revelations.

Position Control

The Summer-Appointment-Cd was removed from the Position file, the pay calculation routine modified to no longer use that value, and the encumbrance and pay transaction generation routines modified to ignore 9-month employees during the summer. This was done in support of the decision to pay *summer research* through the supplemental pay system since it is basically unit based pay (often based upon the research dollars available).

The Pay Calculation display window on POS was enhanced to show the pay for the position record for the *effective* month and fiscal year, with both periods identified by date range. This same pay calculation window was also added to DIST.

I also participated in formal and informal meetings on the topics of conversion, budget cycle COLA calculation/processing, and TARGET review criteria for PSB.

Departmental Accounting

I made further changes to the routines for validating/decoding Institutional Categories, made major changes to the conceptual Accounting Detail file, made further changes to the Dynamic Balance and BU-Balance files, and attending meetings discussing these files and associated processes. These file changes have all been made on DEMO except for the Dept-Acct-Category which will require an unload/reload of data on UA-Data-7 on PROD as well as DEMO (these routines have been written).

Hrly-TS

Very little time has been spent on the investigation of the HP-TRANSLATE-BU-CD processing rule problem, but it appears that this rule was correct at one time (due to the way some programs execute) and has since been modified to use UACBUCNI vs UACBUCN2. Perhaps David Savage can check this out and ensure that the appropriate code is being executed in production.

Supplemental Pay

An additional meeting was held with Susan Stephenson of CTED and Becky has a new write-up for XPAY processing which I believe will address everyone's concerns. One complex component of this was the definition of how to calculate the maximum summer research pay and how to schedule payments when the *half* months of May and August are involved. I hope to start on development of this module soon.

TARGET

I have not made any further progress investigating the TARGET transaction comment problem reported by David Hyatt.

I held an informal session showing how the Transaction Control (TC) command of TARGET should be used by the Analyst to document the Review Criteria used by each TARGET command.

NSM

Ken has converted all the NSM-MS lists to the super-list model and I have tested these without finding any problems. The next step will be to move these to DEMO for some period before going on to PROD.

I have still not received any user feedback on the new *type* of command security (Selective) which was made available on DEMO in October.

PREDICT

I have discovered that the *Coordinator* component of Predict used to migrate objects from TEST to DEMO and PROD is doing something to the extended descriptions we are using for screen level help. The result is that help works fine on TEST, but does not display information correctly for pages 3 or greater on DEMO or PROD. I suspect that this has existed since last Spring when I made the necessary changes for this version of Predict and had to use user exit USR1051N to load and access this text. I've logged a problem with Software AG but not received any feedback. If we can't get a fix, we will either have to directly load this text to each environment, put the text on our own file (MADNESS), or re-code the help routine to read all text into core sequentially (which would require placing some upper limit on its size).

LOG

The Natural logon program was modified to immediately effect changes in the user's Report Output Destination which were made via the User Profile. Previously this required a sign-off and sign-on sequence to make this selection the new default.

Program Generator

In generating the HELP command for USA, I discovered that the cursor positioning logic for this model did not work correctly. The macro was updated to fix this problem.