

June 4, 1996

MEMORANDUM

To: Dennis Stropes
From: W. David Wimberly
Copy: Bill Moody
ISM-L
Subject: May Status Report

General

Report Output Destinations

I have setup 16 distributed printers so far. New ones for May include:

- COEX, EPSON_B01@uaex (Remote40)
- ResLife, RES_LIFE_9@Mercury
- Agri, AGRX_106A@Jupiter (Remote14)
- Patty Siebenmorgen's PC printer
- Purchasing, POLaser@Neptune

Practically all of these have required a problem report to the Service Center before they would work. I have communicated what I would like the Service Center to do to Susan Cromwell, but have not heard anything back. I expect a rash of new printer requests since the Travel Authorization print function is now in production and will soon be announced.

The user exit to provide landscape output on non-postscript HP printers now works. However, the font is too large and characters on the right of the report are off the page.

Don Barnett has shifted some special TPF printing over to use NPF (vs the old NETPRINT), and in so doing built in the capability to recognize UAFSYSB CMS IDs using the form "SYSB". This is an added capability and means we need to modify the USA application code to enable online printing for SYSB CMS IDs and plug this form number when printing from online.

PE type Super Descriptors

I spent some time investigating and documenting the different treatment of ADABAS super descriptors built from PE elements in Predict 3.3.2 and Natural 2.2.8. I made posts to UAFSAG and to SAG-L regarding these differences, with no additional feedback or insight provided. Currently, the change means that the next time a DDM is regenerated a program using the super descriptor will have to be modified to include an index reference.

Hard Drive

The last time I powered my system up, it took several power off / power on cycles and about 15 minutes before my hard drive would spin up. I had this problem on a previous system and John Harris called it *sticktion*. The solution he offered at the time was to not turn off the power.

Labor Distribution

I attended a meeting with Institutional Research and Computing Services to discuss their needs in relation to Labor Distribution data. I also moved the LABOR jobs which use the Report Output Destination ID to production. My most significant activity of the month was the rewrite of the "load1" program (splitting it into two programs) and the parallel execution of it for the six May payrolls and the March adjustment run (the only payrolls for which data was available). The resulting data was compared to what was loaded by the old process to Labor. Discrepancies could either be explained or amounted to an occasional penny difference in the calculation of actual fringe benefits. The rewrite did correctly process the March adjustment run (the old program had scrambled or omitted data for 3 people that month). However, it did not reveal any significant differences in actual fringe benefits which were known to be wrong. With Becky and Pete's assistance, this led to identification of a problem with the calculation of Worker's Compensation due to inadequate field sizes on payrolls of \$10m and use of the optimizing compiler. Further details of this were posted to BASISONE.

There remains some clean-up work on the new load programs and probably some clarification regarding some of its actions. I will continue to run it in parallel with the old program and provide Becky and Pete with the differences. I suspect that it will be implemented by the first payroll of the new year, if not before.

Purchasing/AP

I attended several meetings discussing expenditure coding, receiving, sales/use tax processing, vouchering, and payment processing. The dollar receiving, requiring a manual match of receiver and invoice, and the quantity receiving, performing an automatic match of receiver and invoice, seem to be well understood and documented now. I have spent time on my own trying to conceptualize the invoice entry, disbursement approval, vouchering, credit memo matching, expensing, un-encumbering, PO closing, and payment processes -- all in light of the new concept of vouchers not having to match checks. It appears that there will be more batch update processing than I prefer, but I haven't stumbled upon any major snags. An item that has changed/been clarified is the desire to expense at the time of disbursing approval rather than at the time of payment. This affects how grants are *invoiced*, since we shouldn't bill them until we have actually disbursed the funds. It means we will not be able to look at the expenditures booked and generate bills based upon those (as we have in the past). I also split the Requisition files into two separate physical files and changed the size of Contract-No (these changes need to be made in DEMO as well).

In June, I plan to start work on the general, unlimited line, text management facility that will be used throughout UPS.

Position Control

Some minor but additional file and element name changes were made to the Position files, and changes made to the POSx functions. Significant effort was expended in developing, documenting, coding, and testing facilities for determining when a change is retroactive -- given special May and August payrolls for 9month employees and provision for a future employee based election for semi-monthly pay. At this point, several Position and Employee file changes need to be implemented on DEMO before newer programs can be migrated.

Budget

The activity here was actually more Departmental Accounting than Budget: finalization and creation of new Company, Dept-Acct-Category, and Dynamic-Balance files and creation of the DART library on TEST.

Staff Directory

I have continued to participate in discussions regarding the Directory project, and have added the necessary elements to the Employee view on TEST.

Supplemental Pay

This new sub-system has also been referred to as *the black box* or *the black shroud*. Its intent is to control the inputs and outputs to Payroll so that data can be properly feed to Labor. The most significant visible component will be entry screens for supplemental pay and payroll adjustments. Several meetings have been held to initiate design work, with the first being Labor training for those unfamiliar with its workings.

Hourly Time Sheets

In response to Julie Craig's comments regarding penny differences as reported on LTBU versus how a person was actually paid, I did a limited investigation and discovered that the LTBU calculation does not do any rounding. Though this value will not always match the way a person is paid (unless it is modified to do CCC distribution and then round each center amount), I think it would be correct more often if the current calculation included rounding. I discussed this with Becky and Pete, and Becky approved this change which I will make when I get a chance.