

COMPUTER USAGE COMMUNIQUE
VOL I NO I APRIL 1961

There are many channels of communication required to disseminate the various technical, systems, programming and general interest information vital to professional development in the field of Electronic Data Processing. These communication channels are now being established and improved at CUC to afford every opportunity for individual growth. One part of this function will be filled by a periodic newsletter which will keep the members of Computer Usage in touch with important events both in the Company and in the world of EDP as they occur.

To ensure the most complete coverage of such items, all information of general interest should be sent to the Systems Department for inclusion in future newsletters.

There will be other communication needs filled by these letters. New personnel will be introduced and the whereabouts of all personnel clarified by a projects-in-process report. This sharing of knowledge must be reciprocal so we are asking for notes and contributions. Periodically we will request specific information needed to facilitate the smooth operation of all lines of communication mentioned.

Another use of this letter will be to complement the training programs. Those articles giving information on such things as programs, systems and materials should be retained in the notebooks provided.

II

CUC Notes

Since January 1 of 1961 Computer Usage has increased its staff by eight people. A look at their locations and widely differing background and positions is the best index to CUC's own ever growing list of services and locations.

In the New York Office we have:

1. Carmine Dieli who came to us from Radio Receptor Division of Industrial Instruments, Inc., as a documentation specialist. He has been a technical illustrator and will implement the work of the Systems Department.
2. Nelson Scheib, an analyst from GE, RCA and IBM. Nelson has had a long background in EDP having been both a programmer and a customer engineer.
3. Irving Schectman, an analyst from Norden Division of United Aircraft. Irving brings a background of RCA experience.
4. Shiela Shiren, Administrative Assistant to Tony Penta, who previously worked at the Professional Placement Center doing Reports and Analysis work.

In Washington CUC has added:

1. Diana Hunt, a programmer who complements Irving Schectman's RCA experience on the 501.

In CTS the latest staff additions are:

1. James W. Fox, Console Operator, who has come from SBC and has a variety of machine experience.
2. Marvin Krinsky, Technician, who was an IBM 650 operator at Howard Needles Tammen & Bergendoff.
3. Frank Lee, Technician, who has had many years of EAM experience with J. B. Williams Company.

III

The CUC Dinner Meeting on Thursday, April 13, brought out many interesting facts about CUC's recent activities. Reports from the people involved give this picture of our current projects.

WASHINGTON

Washington has developed an improved memory print for the IBM 1401 and offered it to all SHARE and Guide members. A 50 to 60 % response has been received to date.

We have just finished one job for the Standardization Division of the Department of Defense for war games on the AGO 705. We are programming for the Department of the Navy a sea surveillance system of tracking ships and airplanes.

We increased our office space by fourfold.

FAA - ATLANTIC CITY

The responsibility for development of air traffic control systems. Problem of making sure that aircraft do not collide. Will develop program specifications based on problem definition supplied by FAA. Major problem is definitions and set up of the air traffic control problem itself. Manuals to describe the system are vague. The difficulty is to try to determine what takes place during a flight. A model must be built inside the computer to tell where each airplane is going and where it will be at any time. Files will have to be organized according to many classifications. This is quite a job. A computer is to be installed in Boston some time in 1962, to go into operation to control traffic in the Boston area. The computer is not going to be powerful. We must determine what can be done and what should be done with this computer and on the basis of definition what equipment is actually required.

LOS ANGELES OFFICE

We are completing a large job for Autonetics Division of North American Aircraft. Los Angeles has been selected because there are four or five times as many establishments that do computing in Los Angeles as in San Francisco. There are also three or four times as many ACM members as there are in the New York City area.

III a

NEW YORK OFFICE

Metropolitan Life Insurance Company

Honeywell has an Executive Routine to do multiprogramming. It is limited in that it is inflexible. Met Life wanted to write their own Executive Routine. It works on a priority system. Schedule of programs to be run can be changed at any time. It will take a lot more memory.

CUSP

Integrates orbits of satellites many times faster than other existent programs. The speed gain is due to better mathematical technique and our use of fixed point binary programming.

Sperry Gyroscope

One of the prime contractors in the navigation system for nuclear submarines. The principle function we have filled is programming their special purpose computer to help submarines with problems of navigation.

Card Argus and 650-Simulator for Honeywell 800

Card assembly system handles main instructions and pseudo ops. The 650 simulation is progressing as planned.

H-800 Algebraic Compiler

Twenty man years. At present four people full time - five weeks to go. Programs have been compiled but object decks have not been run. We were commended for comparatively small use of computer time to check out system.

CTS

First year of CTS was red ink. We were dealing with old machines such as the 704, 705, 650. Our first 7090 installation in New York City becomes available in June 1961. Our gross sales in January were \$14,000, February \$28,000, March \$48,000 - break even point. The future - new machines are paying off. Old machines are coming to life. 704 - \$135 per hour will be available last week in May. We should sell 100 hours per month. 7070 - we presently at about 50 hours per month and should go to one and two shifts and expect to do double on the 1401. 7090 has broken 50 hour mark and will be operating in New York with large amount on second 90.

Recent Acquisitions of the Library

Texts:

Dynamic Programming - Bellman

Linear Programming - Ferguson and Sargent

Non Linear Problems in Random Theory - Weiner

Manuals:

C 28-6066 709/7090 Fortran Operations

Distribution # 3 for the SOS Reference Manual

RCA 601 General Information Manual (March 1961)

Honeywell 800 Sort and Collate Manual

Honeywell 800 Executive System Manual

Honeywell 800 Algebraic Compiler Manual

FACT Manual for Honeywell 800

Share Distributions:

964 Revised Monitor for the Fortran System

EDP Notes

The SOS System is out of field test.

The Fortran editor now allows for new tapes to be created on a tape-to-tape basis. Formerly the editor was in the card reader.

SCAT is to be found in the SOS compiler write-up. There is no manual called SCAT as such.

On the use of the extended edit feature of the 1401; if an attempt is made to blank more than 30 leading zeros a machine failure will result.