ITS NEWS

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Information Technology
Services Support Center
and Training Laboratory

U.S. Nuclear
Regulatory
Commission

Division of Automated
Information Services and
Management Development
Training Staff

INTRODUCING THE COMPUTER TUTOR

Sample Tutorials

The Computer Tutor

One often overlooked but excellent alternative to formal classroom microcomputer training is that of using self-instructional tutorials. The ITS Support Center now has computer-based tutorials for many of the NRC standard microcomputer software packages. Perhaps the most attractive aspect of this type of training is that it allows you to learn a great deal about the packages at your own pace and on your time schedule.

Who uses tutorials and why? We asked a few recent users and received a variety of answers. Often staff simply cannot afford the time away from the office for the days required to take training. For others tutorials provide an alternative when a course is not available at the time required. The ITS staff has found that true novices especially, can benefit from previewing the material (such as the DOS and Intro. to PC tutorials) in order to get exposure to PC's before taking formal training. This helps them to feel more comfortable and absorb more when they do take the class. Still others use the tutorials as a method of reviewing some of the more tricky aspects of a package.

For whatever the reason, tutorials at the Support Center could be very helpful to you. Most are menu driven and very easy to use. Bennett Brady of AEOD, an experienced mainframe user, used several tutorials to get a basic working knowledge of micros and to see how she could use them in her work in research analysis. She thought the tutorials were easy and fun to use and enjoyed the fact that she could select only the parts she was most interested in, thus gearing the learning to her level.

The Support Center is a very pleasant and undisturbed environment away from the pressures of your office (no telephone calls!). Yet if you do get into a bind or have a question, expert help is available from the Support Center staff. Pam Sterner, a coop working in IE, found this last factor to be the most important. After six hours of working with the dBASE III tutorial, she felt comfortable enough with the package to start her project which required a great deal of sorting and many data calculations. She enjoyed working with the package itself while learning, and highly recommends the tutorial to anyone wanting an introduction to dBASE.

(Con't)

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The Computer Tutor (Con't)

The Support Center has many new tutorials on order including ones for DisplayWrite 2, CROSSTALK and keyboarding skills. Also on order are several videotapes which can be very useful for a conceptual overview and first introduction to software packages. Look for announcements of new tutorials in future issues of the ITS NEWS. You can receive a complete packet with descriptions of all of the tutorials available at the Support Center by calling x24160.

Support Center Graphics Equipment

One of the functions of the Support Center is to provide access to specialized equipment that may not be available at your office. For example, some of you are already familiar with the Hewlett Packard 6 pen color plotter that is attached to the PC in the Support Center's graphics area. This plotter can be used with LOTUS, Chart-Master, and Sign-Master to produce black-and-white and color paper plots as well as transparencies suitable for overhead projection.

Another newer addition to the graphics area is a Polaroid Palette 35mm color slide production system which can be used with both Chart-Master and Sign-Master. To reserve the Palette and receive instructions for first time use, call the Support Center on 24160 and ask for Paul Vineyard.

ITS NEWS Credits

The ITS NEWS is a quarterly publication providing information of interest to users of computer technology at the NRC. It is produced by the staff of the NRC Information Technology Services Support Center and Training Lab.

Your articles, ideas, information, questions and comments are all welcomed. Please forward the same to the ITS staff by :

Phone: 492-4160
Mail or In Person:
P-808 Phillips Bldg.

ITS Support Center

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Peggy Lester, Instructor
Jaunice Ross,
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Douglas Vickery,
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Note: The Training Laboratory is operated by the USDA Graduate School under an inter-agency agreement jointly managed by RM/DSS/ITS and ADM/MDIS

Graphics:

Design and Layout:
NRC Graphics Section
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MEET THE ITS STAFF (PART 2)

In our first issue we introduced you to the staff at the ITS Support Center. In this issue we'd like to help you get to know the people who work at the ITS Training Laboratory. Any of you that have taken a course at the Training Lab have probably met many of them already. All of the Training Lab Staff are employees of the USDA Graduate School which operates the lab under an inter-agency agreement with NRC. This agreement is managed jointly by RM/D and the Management Development and Training Staff.

Michael Canyes

As a part time instructor for the lab, Michael Canyes is currently teaches Intro. for Novices, CROSSTALK, Intro. LOTUS, Intro. dBASE III, and DisplayWrite 2. Michael is an independent computer consultant with ten years of experience in systems development and training. After graduating from the University of Maryland with a Physical Science degree, he worked for several computer companies as a programmer, and later as an analyst, developing scientific and business systems on mainframes. As small business microcomputers grew in sophistication and popularity, he became fascinated with their potential to solve office problems and in 1981 started the Washington, D.C. Osborne 1 User's group. Since then he has devoted most of his

Michael Canyes

time to working with small business systems. After becoming an independent consultant two years ago, Michael has developed computer systems for real estate companies, law firms, and associations, and trained hundreds of people to use and enjoy computers.

Farewell to Training Lab Director

As Project Manager at the Training Lab, Arline Dell has been responsible for managing the Lab and providing direction for the design, development and implementation of all NRC microcomputer training programs. Arline was instrumental in keeping the lab running smoothly during the crucial period of its early operation. Partly as a result of her outstanding work for NRC, Arline was recently asked to head a similar operation for the Executive Office of the President. Although those of us who worked with Arline will miss her, we wish her the best of luck and much success in her new job. Doug Vickery is acting director of the Lab until Arline's replacement is hired.

Arline Dell

Arenda Holladay

Arenda is another part-time instructor at the Training Lab. Although her educational background is in the Classics, primarily Latin and Greek, she has been involved in microcomputer education since 1980. Arenda began her career working with Texas Instructments in Dallas where she was involved in writing users' manuals and developing course materials for TI's Learning Centers. From Texas Instruments she went to Hayes Microcomputer Products (well known for their modems) where she designed training materials for in-house courses. Arenda currently teaches the dBASE III, DisplayWrite 2, and the Introduction to End-User Microcomputing for Novices courses. In addition to her teaching duties at the center, she is

Arenda Holladay

responsible for developing two new courses: "Intermediate PC-DOS" and "Microcomputer Graphics Using Chart-Master and Sign-Master".

Peggy Lester

As the most senior Training Lab instructor, part of Peggy's job is to work closely with the NRC staff to assure that the courses offered are tailored to NRC needs. This often involves talking with users to research real NRC applications that can be adapted for use in the classroom as examples. Peggy is also responsible for designing new courses as well as teaching and maintaining the existing courses. She has taught Intro. for Managers, DisplayWrite 2, Intro. to LOTUS, Intermediate LOTUS Applications, and CROSSTALK, and is now designing a new course: "Using PERTMASTER for Project Management". Peggy has an extensive background in mainframe applications software and software development methodologies.

Prior to working part-time, she held several project management positions at the Federal Reserve Board supervising programmer/analysts. While there, she designed and developed several nationwide data collection and reporting systems using IBM's data base management system, IMS.

Peggy Lester

She has a degree in mathematics from Caldwell College and completed graduate course work in computer science and business administration. She started her data processing career as a programmer/analyst at the Department of Commerce. She has continuously been involved in teaching computer courses for end-users and data processing professionals at all her previous positions as well as at Northern Virginia Community College.

Jaunice Norrell Ross

As the Office Manager/Administrative Assistant for the Training Lab, Jaunice will probably be the first person you see when you come to take classes at the Lab. Along with accomplishing a multitude of other tasks that are required to keep the center humming, she is responsible for preparing the classroom and all of the class packets for each class, as well as answering any inquiries about the center. Prior to advancing to her current position, she served as the receptionist for Special Programs at the USDA Graduate School and has been an office manager at other organizations.

Jaunice Norrell Ross

Jaunice received her BA in Art from Hampton University and has completed the Office Management program at the Washington School for Secretaries. She is currently studying programming at Office Automation and Training in Washington, D.C.

Douglas Vickery

As the ITS Course Coordinator and Newsletter Editor (and currently the acting Director), Doug wears many hats at the ITS. He is responsible for working with the Training Coordinators and MDTS in processing participant nominations for ITS courses. Doug has designed the database programs (in dBASE III) that are used for tracking and notifying participants of acceptance into ITS courses as well internal systems used at both the Support Center and the Training Lab. He also works closely with the staff of the Support Center in handling the technical problems of the lab and is often seen in the classroom assisting with lab sessions.

Douglas Vickery

Doug received his BS degree from the University of Connecticut in Business Administration where he has also done extensive graduate work in the field of Instructional Media and Technology. Prior to his current position with the USDA Graduate School he was Director of the Language Learning Center at the University of Connecticut.

SATURDAY HOURS

In the first issue of the ITS NEWS, we announced that the ITS Support Center would be open on Saturdays beginning in April. This policy has been modified to avoid unnecessary overtime for ITS staff. Effective immediately, the Support Center will be open on Saturdays by appointment only. Please assist us by making your appointment at least 3 days ahead of time if at all possible. All ITS equipment and software, including tutorials, are available for Saturday use. Call the Support Center help line at 492-4160 to make an appointment.

OFFICE AUTOMATION GROWING PAINS

At the beginning of FY85 the NRC had 157 IBM and IBM compatible microcomputers installed. Ninety-three of these were at headquarters and the remaining sixty-four were in the Regions. The FY85 demand for PC's has been more than double the projected budget estimates. It is estimated that over 250 more PC's will be installed by September 30. This increase in demand has strained RM's resources both in terms of timely delivery and installation of hardware and software, and in providing adequate training and support to users. At present we have only one person to install new equipment, so please bear with us if your PC is not installed as soon as you would like.

Although we are now fully utilizing the hands-on PC classroom at the Training Lab, we realize that there is still a substantial backlog for many of the classes. We appreciate your patience. In cooperation with MDTS, we are doing everything possible to meet your training needs. As far as PC hardware and software installation is concerned, we again ask for your forbearance. Like the rest of the agency, RM/D is short of personnel, with no improvements likely in the near future.

SPECIAL FEATURE: Microcomputers and Office Automation

This is the second in a series of articles on the application of computer technology at the NRC.

"Office Automation" -- the phrase is familiar, but what does it mean? word processing? electronic document distribution? the paperless office? How is office automation evolving at the NRC and how will this evolution be affected by the microcomputer revolution?

At the NRC, as in most organizations, the first evidence of office automation was the acquisition of a series of rapidly improving word processors, beginning with the MT/ST, Mag Card, and magnetic tape typewriters which were later replaced with Vydecs, IBM System 6's and Displaywriters. Today most of the stand-alone word processors at the NRC have in turn given way to the IBM 5520 Office Automation System which provides not only word processing, but electronic document distribution as well. Using the agency's network of 5520 systems, documents can now be electronically communicated among headquarters buildings (Phillips, Willste, Maryland National Bank, East West, and H Street) and the five regional offices including URFO in a matter of minutes. Commission approval is pending for extension of the network to Woodmont and Air Rights and to provide increased 5520 support at MNBB and Willste.

Even these recent changes in office technology will seem small compared to likely results from the influx of microcomputers which is now occurring and will continue over the next several years. By the end of this fiscal year there will be over 400 IBM PC's in the Agency, and this number is expected to reach 1000 in two more years. This means that there will be almost one PC for every 2 professional staff by the end of FY 87, in addition to the three hundred dedicated 5520 terminals currently being used for text processing and electronic document distribution.

How will all these microcomputers interact with the existing 5520 network and what will be the effect of these additional workstations on office automation at the NRC?

(Con't)

SPECIAL FEATURE: Microcomputers and Office Automation (Con't)

To answer the first question, IBM PC users are able to the link to the 5520 network in one of two ways: physical connection as a full function workstation or telephone connection for document transmission/receipt. The Division of Automated Information Services plans to hardwire PCs to 5520 CPUs as necessary to meet office needs. The hardwired PCs are equipped with special hardware and software which allows them to "emulate" a standard dedicated 5520 terminal. This means that professional staff drafting documents using these PCs will be able to store them directly on the 5520 system, where they can be easily accessed by a secretary for final preparation and distribution.

The second connection option, the telephone lines, is being used for PCs which are too far from a 5520 CPU to be hardwired, such as PCs located at NRC Resident Inspection Sites and PCs in headquarters buildings which are not slated to receive a 5520 CPU. These PCs are equipped with modems and communications software (IBM DisplayComm) allowing document transfer via telephone between the PC and any NRC 5520 system.

PCs which are not hardwired to the 5520 are equipped with IBM DisplayWrite 2 word processing software. Documents prepared with this software can be straight text or can incorporate outputs from other PC software such as LOTUS 1-2-3 spreadsheets or dBASE III reports. A DisplayWrite 2 document can easily be transmitted to the 5520 from any PC which is set up for bisynchronous communications via telephone, or alternatively, the diskette containing the document can be hand carried to one of the hardwired PCs, where the document can be transferred to the 5520 from the diskette.

What does all of this mean for office automation at the NRC? Clearly the most significant change is that professionals will begin to draft documents electronically with their PCs rather than by hand on paper. Thus it will be possible to bypass what can be days of waiting for draft materials to be typed by an overburdened secretarial staff. Likely outcomes range from an increased demand for PC word processing and keyboard training, to ultimate reductions in paper usage and, most importantly, higher quality and faster production of final documents. In the NRC environment, where the work product, whether a letter, report, or regulation, is usually the written word, these changes could well result in a very substantial productivity improvement for the Agency as a whole.

(For further information on PC-5520 communications, see "Get Connected" on page 7).

NEW COURSE OFFERINGS AT THE TRAINING LAB

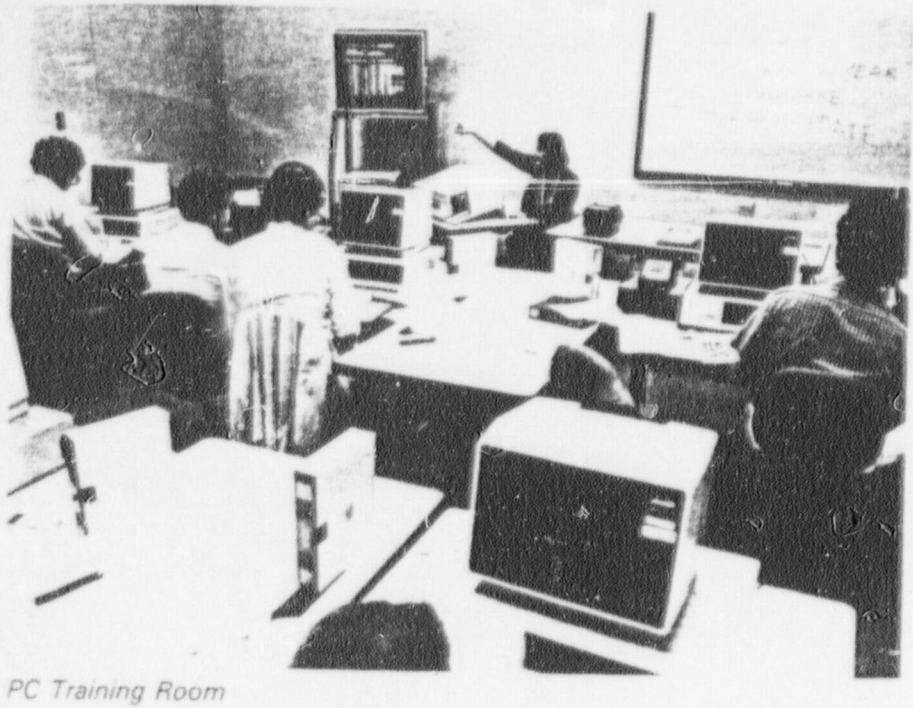
Since the last issue of the ITS NEWS, five new courses have been added to the Training Lab's microcomputer curriculum. Three are new intermediate level classes in LOTUS, dBASE III, and DOS which were offered for the first time in May/June. The other two are courses to be given for the first time in July/August for users of NRC standard graphics and project management software. Contact your training coordinator or MDTS for information on course registration.

Intermediate dBASE III

This course covers the programming aspects of dBASE III. In the Introductory dBASE III class, students learn how to use the built-in commands to design and manipulate a data base. The intermediate course teaches database design concepts, intermediate dBASE III commands, macros, and their use in dBASE III programs.

Intermediate LOTUS 1-2-3 Applications

This is an intermediate level course designed to teach students more of the advanced commands and facilities of the LOTUS 1-2-3 package such as: building "what if" tables, using MACROS, combining spreadsheets, and transferring a file to another software package.



PC Training Room

Intermediate PC-DOS Commands

This hands-on course is designed to familiarize participants with the more advanced commands of the PC's Disk Operating System. After a review of the basic commands, students will learn to create batch files, develop sub-directories, and use the DOS line editor. LINK and DEBUG are introduced. Emphasis is on hands-on learning and exercises with practical applications of PC-DOS.

Using PERTMASTER For Project Management

This course is designed for experienced project managers who wish to use the PERTMASTER package on a microcomputer as a management tool to plan and monitor projects more effectively. This course assumes that attendees have some knowledge of PERT/CPM methods and would like to use them to manage projects.

Graphics: An Introduction to Chart-Master and Sign-Master

This course is designed to familiarize the participants with graphics on the IBM-PC, using the Sign-Master and Chart-Master application software packages. To help us make the course as effective as possible for NRC staff, we have asked Janet Thot-Thompson of the NRC Graphics Section to help us select examples, prepare, and teach some of the material. The class will cover the differences between the various types of signs and charts, and participants will learn how to select, design, and produce the right type of chart for maximum impact and effect. Emphasis is on hands-on learning with practical applications of the two packages.

GET CONNECTED: PC TO 5520 DOCUMENT TRANSFER

One of the questions most frequently asked by new PC users is how to transfer documents from their PC to the 5520 for distribution and/or printing. If your office has a personal computer and you need to get documents into the IBM 5520 system, you can request that the PC be hardwired to the 5520 in your building. The IBM 5253 Emulation Kit, which can be installed on your PC, allows the PC to act as a full function 5520 workstation as well as providing for the transfer of files between the 5520 and the PC. First, coordinate your request with your 5520 system coordinator, and then submit a "Request for NRC Standard PC System Upgrade" form to RM/DSS, P-622.

If your building does not have a 5520, you can use DisplayComm software and a bisynchronous modem to send your documents to a 5520. If your personal computer does not have the necessary hardware and software, submit a "Request for NRC Standard PC System Upgrade" form to RM/DSS, P-622.

If you have the DisplayComm software, but need instructions for using it, call the ITS Support Center and ask for the document entitled "Using IBM DisplayComm for PC-5520 and PC-PC Communications."

(Con't on back cover)

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
ITS TRAINING CALENDAR

JULY 1985

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
1 INTRO FOR NOVICES PART 1	2 INTRO FOR NOVICES PART 2 dBASE USERS' GROUP 1:30-3:00 PM	3 INTRO TO dBASE III PART 1	4 HOLIDAY	5 INTRO TO dBASE III PART 2
8 INTRO FOR MANAGERS PART 1	9 INTRO FOR MANAGERS PART 2	10 INTRO FOR MANAGERS PART3 INTRO FOR NOVICES PART 1	11 INTRO FOR NOVICES PART 2	12 DISPLAYWRITE 2
15 INTERMEDIATE LOTUS 1-2-3- PART 1	16 INTERMEDIATE LOTUS 1-2-3- PART 2	17 GRAPHICS USING SIGNMASTER & CHARTMASTER PART 1	18 GRAPHICS USING SIGNMASTER & CHARTMASTER PART 2 INTRO FOR NOVICES PART 1	19 INTRO FOR NOVICES PART 2
22 INTRO TO LOTUS 1-2-3 PART 1	23 INTRO TO LOTUS 1-2-3 PART 2	24 INTRO TO COMMUNICATIONS AND CROSSTALK	25 INTRO TO dBASE III PART 1 LOTUS USERS' GROUP 2:00 - 4:00 PM	26 INTRO TO dBASE III PART 2
29 INTRO FOR NOVICES PART 1	30 INTRO FOR NOVICES PART 2	31 INTRO TO THE DATA GENERAL MV/8000 COMPUTER SYSTEM (CLI & SED)		

AUGUST 1985

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
			1 INTRO TO dBASE III PART 1	2 INTRO TO dBASE III PART 2
5 INTERMEDIATE LOTUS 1-2-3 PART 1	6 INTERMEDIATE LOTUS 1-2-3 PART 2 dBASE USERS' GROUP 1:30-3:00 PM	7 INTERMEDIATE dBASE III PART 1	8 INTERMEDIATE dBASE III PART 2	9 INTRO TO COMMUNICATIONS AND CROSSTALK
12 INTRO TO LOTUS 1-2-3 PART 1	13 INTRO TO LOTUS 1-2-3 PART 2	14 BASIC & FORTRAN 77 IN THE DATA GENERAL MV/8000 ENVIRONMENT	15 INTRO FOR NOVICES PART 1	16 INTRO FOR NOVICES PART 2
19 USING PERTMASTER FOR PROJECT MANAGEMENT PART 1	20 USING PERTMASTER FOR PROJECT MANAGEMENT PART 2	21 INTRO TO BASIC PROGRAMMING PART 1	22 INTRO TO BASIC PROGRAMMING PART 2	23 INTERMEDIATE PC-DOS
26 INTRO FOR MANAGERS PART 1	27 INTRO FOR MANAGERS PART 2	28 INTRO FOR MANAGERS PART 3 INTRO FOR NOVICES PART 1	29 INTRO FOR NOVICES PART 2 LOTUS USERS' GROUP 2:00 - 4:00 PM	30 DISPLAYWRITE 2

ITS BULLETIN BOARD

This section of the newsletter serves as a bulletin board for disseminating information of interest to NRC micro and mainframe computer users. If you have any questions regarding the bulletin board notices or wish to contribute a problem to be discussed, contact the ITS Support Center by calling 492-4160.

PERSONAL COMPUTERS

Multiple Indexing Using Character and Date Fields with dBASE III

In order to get dBASE III to index properly using a date field in conjunction with a character field, it is necessary to convert the date into a character string with format YYMMDD. In the following example "charfld" is a character field and "datefld" is a date field. To construct a multi-level index on charfld and datefld, construct your INDEX statement like this:

```
INDEX ON charfld +
SUBSTR(DTOC(datefld),7,2) +
SUBSTR(DTOC(datefld),1,2) +
SUBSTR(DTOC(datefld),4,2)
```

Improved Request Procedure for PC Upgrades

In order to improve RM's service to PC users, a simplified procedure was implemented on April 1 to facilitate requests for hardware and software upgrades for installed PC's. Check with your Office ADP Coordinator for a copy of the "Requests for NRC Standard PC Systems Upgrade" form.

Printing Options for LOTUS Users with NRC Printers

LOTUS users with the IBM Graphics Printer can send commands to the printer using the "SETUP" option under the "PRINT" command (type "/PPOS" to get to this option from your worksheet). Using the SETUP option, the user sends the printer a "setup string" made up of ASCII character codes separated by back-slashes. With the IBM graphics printer, the codes work as follows:

\015 changes print to compressed mode (16.5 characters per inch)

\018 turns off compressed mode and returns to normal mode (10 characters per inch)

\027\069 changes print to emphasized mode (works only at 10 characters per inch)

\027\070 turns off emphasized mode

\027\071 turns on double-strike mode (works for both compressed and normal type, i.e., if compressed mode was already on, sending this string sets the printer for double-strike compressed type)

\027\072 turns double strike mode off

Note: Emphasized mode is similar to double-strike mode except that the print head is offset slightly on the second pass, so that the characters appear thicker instead of just darker.

Users with Epson printers can send many other setup strings as well as the ones above. The meaning of the various ASCII codes are described on page G-5 of the Epson FX Printer Operations Manual.

dBASE III Users' Group

The first meeting of the dBASE III Users' Group was held on April 2, 1985. Although it was mostly an organizational meeting, the turnout was encouraging to Judy Butts, the chairperson for the group. Judy is with the Division of Safety Technology, NRR. In her present position as Management Assistant in the

(Con't)

ITS BULLETIN BOARD

dBASE III Users' Group (Con't)

Division of Safety Technology, she has used dBASE to design and implement several large data bases for the Director, NRR.

The next meeting of the dBASE III User's Group is scheduled for Tuesday, June 11, 1985, beginning at 1:30 p.m. in the ITS Training Lab, Classroom A. All dBASE III users, whether beginners or experts, are invited to attend. Bring a diskette so you can copy programs discussed and your own programs that you would like to share with others.

Speakers will include Lance Lessler of NMSS who is scheduled to demonstrate the use of an hierarchical menu generating program, which enables users to quickly organize their particular dBASE application in a framework of menus and sub-menus. ITS Support Center consultant Karen VanDuser is scheduled to demonstrate dBASE III file transfer to both DisplayWrite 2 and LOTUS 1-2-3. For more information call Judy Butts, X24822.

LOTUS Users' Group

The next NRC LOTUS 1-2-3 Users Group meeting will be held on Thursday, June 27, 1985, at 2 p.m. in room A of the Training Lab. Topics coming up include: documenting LOTUS 1-2-3 programs - especially important if many people are sharing the same spreadsheet; the use of data tables for "WHAT IF" budget applications - most useful for getting to the bottom line of a situation; a sampling of easy and quick to use applications that make everyday work a whole lot easier; and a discussion of the LOTUS 1-2-3 update coming out in the fall.

As usual there will be discussions on LOTUS macros, a look at particular NRC applications, and further exploration of LOTUS's many capabilities. It's a good idea to bring a diskette with you to the meeting so that you can copy particular programs that are of interest.

Jerry Tomlin, of RES, chairs the group, and would be very happy to hear from NRC staff with interesting LOTUS applications or techniques that they would be willing to share with the group. So if you think you might have an application to contribute or ideas for particular topics you would like discussed, please call Jerry on X74159.

BNL

7 Track Tape Drives to be Phased Out

BNL is planning to phase out all 7 track tape drives by early summer. Once this occurs, it will be impossible to read or write 7 track tapes. Users are therefore advised to make sure that any tapes obtained from contractors or other sources are 9 track, and to copy any necessary programs or data residing on 7 track tapes to 9 track tapes as soon as possible. Assistance with this process is available from the Support Center upon request. Users of NRC "K" tapes need not be concerned as these tapes are 9 track.

Intern/Coop Computer Overview for June 26

Any interns or coops who will be required to use NRC computers and who have not been signed up for the ITS Computer Overview to be given on June 26 should call Emily Robinson or Pat Bell on 24160 by June 20. Branch chiefs who anticipate they will have student employees working with NRC computers can register them by calling the above number NOW!

ITS BULLETIN BOARD

New Application Forms for INEL Computer IDs

EG&G has developed new forms for computer ID applications. Anyone applying for a new INEL ID must complete and submit both an NRC form 380 and the revised EG&G forms 1722 & 1726. All forms are available either from office account coordinators or from Jean Caldwell at the ITS Support Center.

Change in INEL Renewal Procedure

EG&G is now processing computer ID renewals throughout the year instead of renewing all IDs in September. Using a random selection process, some 25 NRC user IDs will be selected each month for renewal. You will be notified when your ID is selected. Remember - the system is random, so don't think that you've been skipped if other members of your office or branch receive renewal forms while you do not.

M01 & M06 File Transfer

Until further notice, queued files cannot be transferred between the two INEL mainframes, M01 & M06. The user may work on either mainframe by logging in appropriately (M01 = 7300 = CY73, M06 = 7600 = CY76). However, if a user wishes to print on NRC printers by using the ROUTE command, the user MUST be logged into M01. This implies that batch jobs destined to have output printed should be submitted to the M01 machine.

INEL

The IMSL Math Subroutine Library Now Available

The IMSL library of mathematical subroutines is now available to the user community on both INEL mainframes. Two control statements are required to use this library:

```
ATTACH(IMSL/UN=LIBRARY)
LIBRARY(IMSL)
```

The subprograms in the IMSL library are invoked from the user's FORTRAN program by a subroutine call with appropriate arguments. An index and documentation of the IMSL routines resides in the ITS Support Center Library.

New "ABC" Courses for NIH Users

Two new "ABC" (Assisted by Computer) courses are now available on the NIH computer system: "Computer Literacy" and "Job Control Language." The Computer Literacy course provides an overview of computer history, current capabilities, and future potential in easy-to-understand, non-technical terms. The Job Control Language course describes the basic JCL and JES2 statements needed to run a batch job on the NIH Computer Utility. NIH also offers an ABC course on WYLBUR. To take a course, all you need are NIH access parameters (account and initials). Dial 9-492-2221, LOGON to WYLBUR, and type "ENTER ABC" at the WYLBUR prompt to start the tutorials.

New Revisions Installed on NRC Data General MV/8000 in March

New revisions of F77 and AOS/VS are now being used on the NRC Data General MV/8000. Revision 2.22 of FORTRAN 77 was installed on March 11, 1985 and revision 5.03 of AOS/VS on March 8, 1985. The user can obtain information about the new revisions by typing the following when in the CLI command mode:

```
NEWS F77
  or
NEWS AOS/VS
```

GET CONNECTED PC TO 5520 DOCUMENT TRANSFER (Con't)

Also, one of the Support Center PCs is configured for PC-5520 communications using DisplayComm and is available for demonstrations, one-on-one assistance, or use by anyone who needs to transmit Displaywrite 2 documents to the 5520 network. This machine may be reserved by calling 492-4160.

If you need assistance in using the 5520 emulator software call Paul Vineyard at the ITS Support Center.

UNDERSTANDING THE CORPORATE DATA NETWORK

The first issue of ITS NEWS had an article which introduced readers to the concept of NRC's planned Corporate Data Network (CDN). Since the CDN will play a major role in all future ADP initiatives, we have asked the chief of RM/D's ADP Planning Staff, Jack Frost, to contribute a brief article about the CDN for each future issue. The purpose of these articles will be to help all employees get a better feeling for what the CDN is and what it is not, and to inform us all about the progress of the effort.

First and foremost, it is important to view the CDN not as a project such as the development of a new system or the installation of a new piece of equipment, but as a new strategy for providing data and word processing services to the agency. Simply stated, the CDN is the introduction of modern ADP technology and techniques. It encompasses all aspects of ADP.

In the future, ADP initiatives will employ total integration of data processing, word processing, and telecommunications in order to increase the availability and accuracy of agency data and information.

In upcoming articles we will explore further each of the major aspects of the CDN:

* Office Automation
* Centralized Shared Data Bases
* Information Technology Center
* Software Improvement Program

ALL EMPLOYEES TO RECEIVE ITS NEWS

The number of subscription requests in response to our first issue was so large that we have decided to distribute ITS NEWS to all employees, thus eliminating the cost of maintaining a distribution list.

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

ITS SUPPORT CENTER

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7920 Norfolk Avenue
Bethesda, MD 20814

Phone:
(FTS) or (301) 492-4160
NRC Local 2-4160

Center Hours:
8:15 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. M - F

Consulting Hours:
8:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. M - F
2:00 - 5:00 p.m. M - F

Services:
User Assistance (Telephone & Walk-in)
Equipment and Software for Trial Use
Demonstrations
Technical Library
Tours
Computer and Video-based Tutorials

ITS TRAINING LABORATORY

Location:
Suite W-102 Woodmont Building
8120 Woodmont Avenue
Bethesda, MD 20814

Phone:
(FTS) or (301) 492-5790
NRC Local 9-492-5790

Open:
Monday - Friday

Hours:
8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Services:
Three classrooms for formal ADP training including one equipped with eight IBM PCs.
"Hands-on" instruction in the use of microcomputers and time sharing systems