

The CMI drive has been in operation for over a year now, on almost a daily basis, with no problems other than as detailed above. The Maintenance Application in service mode (press F12, F19, F5 when in the application) gives the following information. The drive has been in service for 420 hours of cumulative run time. It has done 11,898,559 read/writes. There were no bad blocks found at the time of installation, and none have developed to date. The application also reports that the drive has 16 sectors per track, 511 cylinders and 6 heads.

I have not tested the CMI drive under P/OS V3.0. My rough timing tests for compiles and links show the same results as for an DEC RCD52.

I hope that this information will be of use to anyone else contemplating upgrading to a non DEC drive. If you have any experiences with the PRO, why not share them in this newsletter. We'd like to hear about them.

Here, Here! Many thanks to Tony (a NEW author to the Newsletters) for sharing his expertise with us. How about YOU? Ed.

PRO Retirement Plans

By Digital Equipment Corporation

Editor's Note: The following article first appeared as session notes for the PROFESSIONAL 300 Series Product Panel session at Fall '87 DECUS Symposium.

These session notes will include the retirement plans for the Professional 300 Series systems supplying final ordering dates for hardware and software products as well as service plans. It will also include what software and hardware products work on the Professional 300 Series systems today. It will also cover what DEC developed software has been revised in the past year.

The schedule below will give the final ordering dates for PC380 systems, PRO Software packages and PRO unique Hardware options. It is hoped that this schedule will give our customers time to plan for the future and not negatively impact their computer requirements.

HARDWARE RETIREMENT SCHEDULE:

Option	Description	Last order	Last ship
PC380-xx	System unit	March 25 1988	July 1 1988
PC3K1-xx	Country Kit	March 25 1988	July 1 1988
PC3XS-AA	CP/M & SOFTCARD	March 25 1988	July 1 1988
QBA46-H3	PRO CP/M-80 UPDATE	March 25 1988	July 1 1988
RCD31-A	20MB disk & controller	March 31 1989	June 30 1989
RCD32-AA	40MB disk & controller	March 31 1989	June 30 1989
RCD53-A	67MB disk & controller	March 31 1989	June 30 1989
MSC11-B	512Kb Daughter card	March 31 1989	June 30 1989
MSC11-CK	256Kb Option Module	March 31 1989	June 30 1989
VC241-B	EBO for PC380	March 31 1989	June 30 1989
PC3XA-An	Disk Expander BOX (PC380 only)	March 31 1989	June 30 1989
PC3XC-BA	Quad Serial Line Unit	March 31 1989	June 30 1989
PC3XX-AA	Real Time Interface	March 31 1989	June 30 1989
PC3XX-AB	RTI Connector Pod	March 31 1989	June 30 1989
ADMPC-AA	Analog to Digital Multi	March 31 1989	June 30 1989
BCC10-03	PRO RTI Y cable	March 31 1989	June 30 1989

BCC11-03	IEEE-488 RTI	March 31 1989	June 30 1989
BCC12-03	RTI Parallel I/O	March 31 1989	June 30 1989
DECNA-K	PRO/Ethernet Controller	March 31 1989	June 30 1989
DTC11-A	TMS	March 31 1989	June 30 1989

xx denotes different variations depending on country of use

The Software that is available on the Professional 300 Series systems is planned to be available for ordering through March 31 1989 with shipments completed by June 30 1989. Refer to the lists below under "Available DEC Developed Software" and "DCS Available Products" for the currently available software under P/OS.

SERVICES AND SUPPORT:

Hardware support for systems and options will be provided by Digital Field Service for at least 7 years after retirement of product.

Software Product Services will be notifying PRO Telephone Advisory Service contract customers and Update Service customers that Software Product Services will continue to be available on these products until June 1989.

WHY RETIRE THE PROFESSIONAL 300 SERIES

If you look at the classical product life cycle, a product is developed, it gets enhanced and then new technology replaces it with bigger, better, faster, cheaper systems. In the case of the Professional 300 series it started in May 1982 when Digital Equipment Corporation announced the Professional 350 and Professional 325 Series systems. The system was enhanced in January 1985 with the announcement of the Professional 380 series system and will end June 1989 when the last option and software package is shipped.

The second reason for end of life at this time is because customer demand is decreasing for this product.

We have worked to established an end-of-life schedule that will provide adequate planning windows in migrating to other Digital products and minimize the impact to our customer base.

Digital Equipment Corp. has VAX-based products in a similar price range as the Pro today. The VAX based products start at this low price range and move up in price as functionality increases. Doing a conversion from the Professional 300 Series System using P/OS to a VAX based system is a one time conversion that will translate into a long-term growth path into a wide range of systems that use the same software. For applications that require graphics we suggest the VaxStation line of products, and for applications that do not require high resolution graphics we suggest the MicroVAX line of product.

NEW OR REVISED PRODUCTS FOR THE PROFESSIONAL 300 SERIES

HARDWARE:

NEW HARDWARE SUPPORTED UNDER P/OS V3.2

RCD32-AA	40MB half-height disk and controller
RCD53-A	67MB full-height disk and controller
LN03S-xx	LN03-PLUS Laser Printer
LA75-xx	Companion Printer

SUPPORTED HARDWARE FOR PROFESSIONAL 300 SERIES SYSTEMS WITH P/OS V3.2

DISKS

RCD50-A	5MB full-hight disk and controller	retired
RCD51-A	10MB full-hight disk and controller	retired
RCD31-A	20MB half-hight disk and controller	
RCD52-A	33MB full-hight disk and controller	retired
RCD32-AA	40MB half-hight disk and controller	
RCD53-A	67MB full-hight disk and controller	

PRINTERS/PLOTTER

LA50-RA	LA50 Personal Printer	retired
LA100-PC	LA100 for Professional	retired
LA75-xx	Companion Printer	
LA210-xx	LA210 letter printer	
LQP02-AA	LQP02 Letter Quality Printer	retired
LQP03-AA	LQP03 Letter Quality Printer	retired
LN03-AA	LN03 Laser Printer	
LN03S-xx	LN03-PLUS Laser Printer	
LVP16-AA	Color Graphics Pen Plotter	

xx denotes different variations depending on country of use

MEMORY

MSC11-B	512K bytes Daughter card
MSC11-CK	256K bytes Option Module

EXTENDED BITMAP Option (required for color monitors)

VC241-A	EBO for PC325 & PC350	retired
VC241-B	EBO for PC380	

MONITORS

VR201-A	12' Black and White Video Monitor
VR201-B	12' Green Phosphor Video Monitor
VR201-C	12' Amber Phosphor Video Monitor
VR241-AA	13' RGB Color Video Monitor (requires EBO)
VRTS1-A	13' Color/Touch Screen Monitor (requires EBO)

MISCELLANEOUS OPTIONS

PC3XA-AA	Disk Expander BOX (PC380 only)
PC3XC-BA	Quad Serial Line Unit
PC3XS-AA	CP/M softcard (last order March 25, 1988)
PC3XX-AA	Real Time Interface
PC3XX-AB	Real Time Interface Connector Pod
DECNA-K	PRO/Ethernet Controller
DFMSA-AA	Mini-Exchange auto port select
DTC11-A	Telephone Management System
DTC11-B	Telephone Management System Voice Unit

retired

SOFTWARE:

REVISED SOFTWARE

P/OS V3.2	Available September 1987
PRO/Toolkit V3.2	Available September 1987
PRO/DECnet V2.1	Available September 1987
PRO/TK Pascal V1.3	Available January 1987
PRO/TK Basic Plus 2 V2.5	Available December 1987
PRO/TK Fortran V5.2	Available August 1987

P/OS V3.2

P/OS V3.2 provides support for the RCD32 and RCD53 hard disks. It also provides enhanced LA75 support to allow graphics to be printed on the LA75 in the correct aspect ratio. Previous versions of P/OS support the LA75 correctly only in text mode. Support for the LN03-PLUS in P/OS V3.2 also allows more complex images to be printed on the laser printer utilizing Print Services.

A revised PDI driver is included in P/OS V3.2 for better support the DECTouch monitor, the communications port, and the printer port.

A new utility, SYSTEM INSTALLATION AND CUSTOMIZATION, enables users of standalone or single-user systems to tailor the system to remove unneeded functions and recover disk space. This is not recommended for use in a server environment.

Another utility, DISK MAINTENANCE, allows the user to add bad blocks to the bad block file manually or to search the disk for lost files. It can be either installed or run as a standalone system application.

A GIDIS to SIXEL converter is included for those devices supported by P/OS V3.2 print services for printing on other systems.

Allow MESSAGE BOARD messages to be put into a file.

A new utility call BROADCAST to send one line messages to all user logged onto your system or with PRO/DECNET to any system on your local Ethernet.

The account Management program now allows you to enter eight-character passwords or null passwords, and to choose from a list of accounts when you are adding, modifying, or deleting an account.

A change in terminal setup, which now allows you to change the shading on black and white monitors.

PRO/DECNET V2.1 This release of PRO/DECNET will run on P/OS V3.0, V3.1 and V3.2

Password has been increased from a maximum of 6 characters to a maximum of 8 characters

The Remote Terminal utility will now set the /eight_bit terminal characteristic when set hosted.

NTD now understands PC3XX and VT2XX terminals, and will allow screen updating.

The PRO/DECnet Mail Utility documentation describes the use of comment indicators "!" and ";" in distribution mailing list files. In this release, please note that the use of the "!" as a comment indicator has an extra requirement added to it. Now the "!" must either be the first character on the line, or it must be preceded by at least one blank. This has been done to allow node name path names with "!" from message routers.

The following problems have been corrected in this release.

DECnet Nodes running DECnet-Ultrix V1.1 were unable to connect to PRO nodes.

Wildcard copies initiated from a VMS node would eat up secondary pool on the PRO side when FAL logging was running.

An attempt to pull files from a PRO system would fail if the file record type was VFC and if the fixed part was greater than 127.

Directory listings of a network node which contained files with short "owner" fields were not displayed properly.

Doing a wildcard copy from an Ultrix system to a PRO system would result in the output files being named .;1, .;2, .;3, etc. if the remote file names did not follow the expected naming convention.

Network copy commands with multiple input file specs were not successful because the input file specs were not expanded properly.

File ownership of copied files were not always properly set.

The creation date of files copied over the network were sometimes improperly set. If a wildcard copy command is used, the creation date will be the preserved. If any part of the output spec is defined, the creation date will be the today's date.

When transferring files to a PRO, if the directory did not exist, an incorrect error message of "invalid wildcard operation" was returned.

Attempting a rename operation concurrently with another file operation to a PRO would fail.

DEL/LOG RMS-NMF-ERROR would occur when deleting files on a PRO from VMS 4.x nodes.

In the Mail utility, the "TO" field size was too short to handle answering messages from a message router.

In a multiple terminal environment, network aliases could be destroyed when the user logged in or out.

If a mail message was selected to be edited before sending, the unedited version would sometime be sent.

While installing an application that uses a network object, the installation would fail with a 'network management error of 34'.

When set hosted to a VMS system, you could not set the terminal /EIGHT_BIT characteristic.

The following problem corrections apply only to systems running v3.2 of P/OS :

The status of "2" (completed the operation but lost some data) was returned after the DECnet GNDNT call because the node number was not placed into the user's buffer.

If a message being sent across a logical link was larger than the DECnet segment size and it was too large to fit in the user's receive buffer, the system would crash.

A user attempt to send an interrupt message immediately after accepting a connect request would sometimes never complete.

File transfers to TOPS systems would sometimes hang.

If a circuit was down, there was a time delay before informing the user that the node was unreachable.

The COMM1 port KCP driver would sometimes hang during a line re-initialization.

When using DLX for Ethernet access, if a bad value was passed in the characteristic buffer, the system would crash.

Unnecessarily long delays would occur before lost or corrupted packets would be retransmitted at the logical link level.

If bad transport control messages were received, the PRO system would crash.

When using the WAITNT call for DECnet intertask communications, AST processing was enabled on return even if AST processing was disabled before the call.

If the DECnet EXEC verification state was set to OFF using NCP, the PRO would crash whenever any network access was tried to it.

PRO/TOOLKIT V3.2

Flying install is the process by which DCL installs, runs, and then removes a task or utility that is needed to process a command, if the task is not currently installed in the System Task Directory (STD).

ANALYZE/MEDIA command allows you to identify the number of bad blocks on a disk.

The BROADCAST AND REPLY commands allow you to send messages to users on one or more workstations connected to your system or to a Professional that is connected to your local network.

The SET FILE command allows you to establish certain file characteristics. You can change the end-of-file marker, direct a directory entry to point to a file in another directory, or truncate a file.

The SET PROMPT command allows you to set the prompt that DCL displays on your terminal.

The SHOW USERS/NODE command displays information about users on your local node.

The /PROTECTION qualifier to the CREATE/DIRECTORY command allows you to specify a protection code for the directory file when it is created.

The /TERMINAL qualifier to the CONTINUE, START, START/UNBLOCK, or STOP/BLOCK command directs the command to operate on a terminal other than the terminal from which the command was issued.

The CATCHALL FACILITY is a DCL feature that allows you to customize DCL command processing by defining a logical name and equating it to one or more values. With this feature, you can set up DCL to interpret MCR commands, install, run, and remove a task, run a user-written task, or run the system-supplied sample catchall task, TDX.TSK. The TDX.TSK and its source file, TDX.MAC, are supplied on the DCLHLP2 diskette.

You can change the default editor that DCL invokes by defining the logical name DCL\$EDITOR and equating it to the value EDT, PROSE, SLP or the name of an installed editor task.

You can selectively disable the EXIT command on one or more terminals in a multi-user system.

The APPLICATION DISKETTE BUILDER (ADB) has been enhanced to allow you to build an application diskette for P/OS V3.0 or later.

Available DEC Developed Software under P/OS

QBA02-A3	P/OS Hard Disk	V3.2
QBA04-A3	PRO/Basic	V1.4
QBA05-A3	PRO/Comm Hard Disk	V3.0
QBA11-A3	Prose Plus	V2.0
QBA13-A3	P/OS Diskette	V1.8

QBA14-A3	PRO/Toolkit	V3.2
QBA15-A3	PRO/TK Fortran	V5.2
QBA16-A3	PRO/TK Dibol	V1.7
QBA17-A3	PRO/TK Basic + 2	V2.5
QBA18-A3	PRO/TK Pascal	V1.3
QBA19-A3	PRO/TK Cobol 81	V2.4
QBA21-A3	PRO/TK Symbolic Debug	V2.0
QBA22-H3	Ivis System update	V3.1
QBA25-A3	App Starter Kit HD	V1.0
QBA26-A3	App Starter Diskette	V1.0
QBA27-A3	PRO/Producer toolkit	V1.6
QBA35-A3	Sight	V1.1
QBA43-A3	PRO/datatrieve	V2.0
QBA44-A3	PRO/Decnet	V2.1
QBA45-A3	PRO/Comm Diskette	V1.8
QBA46-H3	PRO-CP/M-80 update	V1.1
QBA58-A3	PRO/TK RTI Library	V2.1
QBA63-A3	WPS-PLUS/Pos	V1.0
QBA65-H3	Install & Maint update	V3.2
QBA71-A3	PRO/RDT	V1.1
QBA76-A3	Synergy	V2.0

Available DEC software under RT-11

QB813-A3	Fortran IV/RT-11	V2.8
QB913-A3	Basic Plus/RT-11	V3.0
QBA39-A3	RT-11 on the PRO	V5.4B

DCS Product available from DEC under P/OS

QA179-C3	Logo
QA384-C3	MJA General Ledger
QA385-C3	MJA Payroll & Personnel
QA386-C3	MJA Accounts Receivable
QA387-C3	MJA Accounts Payable
QA388-C3	MJA Order Entry/Inventory
QA497-C3	RS/1 for the PRO
QA550-C3	Athena/Graph
QA569-C3	PRO/Videotex
QA684-C3	Design Graphix/Executive
QA767-C3	CT*OS
QAAAO-C3	PRO 20/20
QAAC2-C3	Phoenix/PRO

PROgramming Quickie - A diskette based bootable DCL application

By Digital Equipment Corporation

SINGLE APPLICATION SYSTEM

The Single Application System (SAS) provides a base for applications that must run without a hard disk subsystem.