

TO: Distribution
FROM: M. J. Grady
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SUBJECT: Revised config cards for tapes

This MOSN describes the changes to the BOS config cards that were made necessary by the system changes outlined in MCB-1075. The cards affected by this MOSN are the PRPH card for tapes and the TAPE card. Also due to these changes the switches on the tape controller will be set permanently and operations will always be told the correct drive on which to mount the tape. In case of hardware difficulties two new initializer commands have been added to add and remove drives from the system.

The only change to the PRPH card for tapes is to correctly specify the number of 7 and 9 track drives configured in the system. A typical PRPH card for the 6180 service machine would be:

```
PRPH A TAP7 12 1 TAP9 12 3
```

This PRPH card indicates that there are three 9 track drives and one 7 track drive on the system (See MOSN-230 for a complete description of the PRPH card).

The TAPE card has been changed to add 2 more arguments. The TAPE card now has 4 arguments and is of the form:

```
TAPE 1 2 0 1
```

The first argument is the number of drives reserved for system use. A reserved system drive is always a nine track drive. The second argument is the number of drives any one process can attach at a time. The third and fourth arguments are the starting drive numbers of the 7 and 9 track drives respectively, i.e. in the example there is one 7 track drive and it is drive 0, and there are three 9 track drives starting at drive 1. Note that the information on the PRPH card and TAPE card must be consistent, i.e. there can't be four 7 track drives starting at drive 0 and three 9 track drives starting at drive 2.

With this complete information about the number and type of drives, the tape mounting programs will be able to select the correct drive all of the time. Thus in order to get more accurate error reporting on a per drive basis, operations should not change the drive selection switches on the tape controller after they have been set according to the TAPE card.

In case of hardware failures operations may add or delete drives from the system with the new initializer commands addt and delt. These commands take only one argument, the number of the drive to be added or deleted. Examples:

addt 2

delt 3

Note that a drive may only be added if it was specified on the PRPH card and that a drive may only be deleted if it is not currently attached.