# IRIS
# CUSTOMER
# SUPPORT
# BULLETIN

# December 10, 1984

POINT 4 Data Corporation

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CUSTOMER SUPPORT BULLETIN

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December 10, 1984

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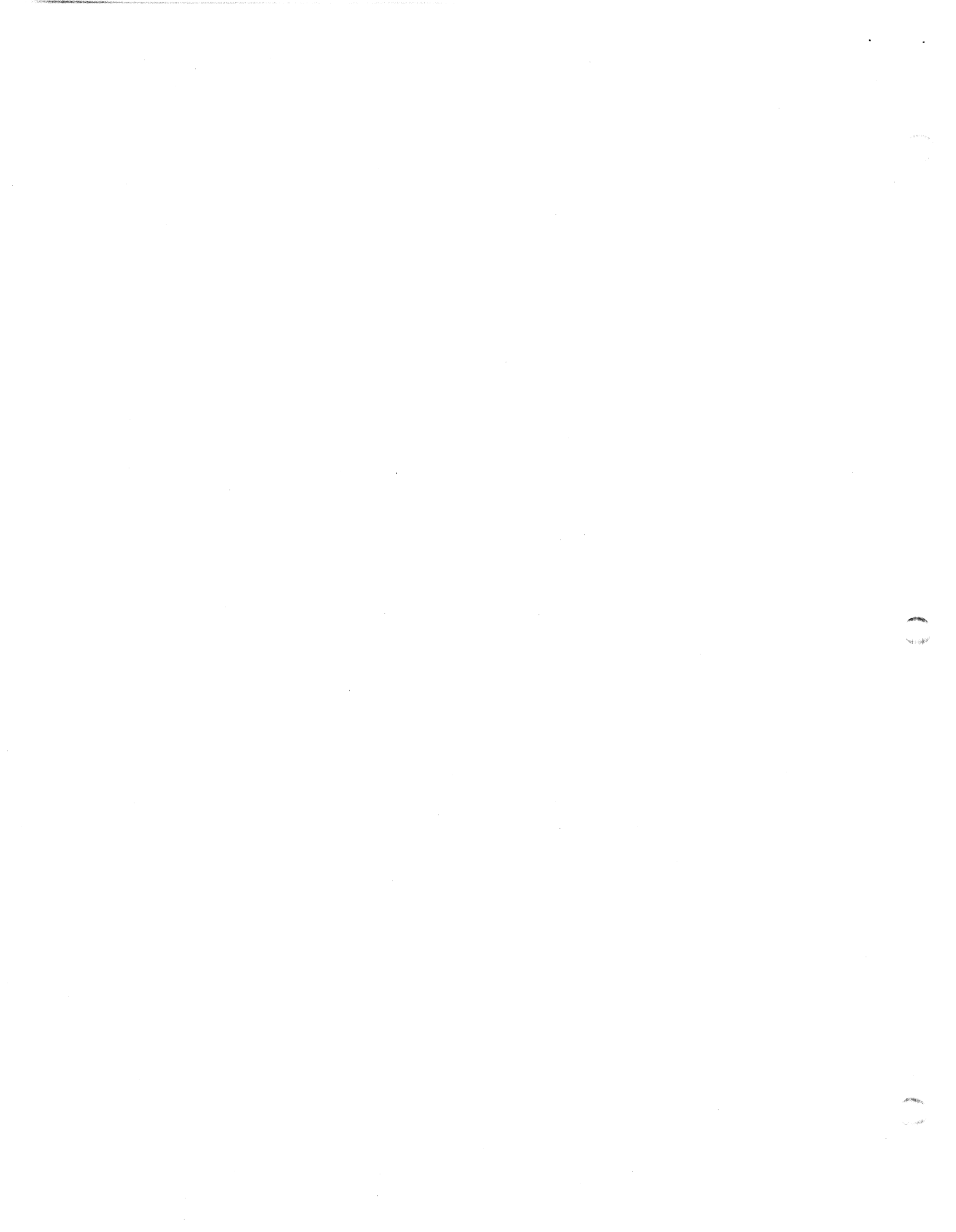
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POINT 4 DATA CORPORATION

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CUSTOMER SUPPORT NEWS

December 10, 1984

by

Steven C. Moritsugu
Director, IRIS Customer Support


1.  IRIS Rev 8.2C1 is now available.  The major features and
    problem corrections it provides are detailed in the new
    document "IRIS Revision History" which is enclosed.  This
    history contains information on IRIS 8.2C, 8.2C1, CTUTILITY,
    and DISCUTILITY revisions.

2.  There is now a new capability for MARK 2 systems to allow
    handling any MARK 2 disc drives that have, or develop, two or
    more bad sectors in the same track.  In the past, this
    situation was rare but would cause the drive to be unsuitable
    for use under IRIS.  Now, using MARK 2 DISCUTILITY 2.3B and
    IRIS 8.2C1, up to 16 bad sectors in the same track can be
    handled automatically.

3.  Any customers still using MARK 2 DISCUTILITY Rev 2.2 with
    Atasi 45MB drives should make sure they have applied the
    patch from the October 84 Bulletin:

| Location | New Contents | Old Contents |
|----------|--------------|--------------|
| 3365     | 41052        | 41152        |

    DISCUTILITY Rev 2.3B (which is being shipped with IRIS 8.2C1)
    does not require this patch.

4.  In the November bulletin, the description of the patch to
    ACCOUNTUTILITY implies that ABA is no longer needed at
    location 611 in CONFIG.  The description should have said
    that ABA is no longer needed to use ACCOUNTUTILITY but is
    still needed for all other uses of indexed files.

5.  A problem has been found when trying to SAVE a Lark disc
    drive on a LOTUS disc controller to 1/4-inch streamer tape.
    The SAVE does not report any errors, but a VERIFY would show
    that the tape is not a good backup.  Since the Lark has both
    a fixed and removable cartridge, use of streamer tape with
    Lark is rare.  If such a combination is needed, please call
    Customer Support for a special procedure.

6.  Note:  Always make discsubs 3, 30, 100, and 101 memory
    resident.  Never make discsubs 44 or 151 memory resident.


     ❄  Seasons Greetings from all of us at POINT 4!  ❄

                          ❄

POINT 4 DATA CORPORATION

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         IRIS REVISION HISTORY
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                    by                                4444    4
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Steven C. Moritsugu

Director, IRIS Customer Support


This document provides a list of the current IRIS and stand-alone
software revisions.  It also details the major features and
problem corrections provided by IRIS revisions 8.2C and 8.2C1, R8
CTUTILITY revisions 5.6 through 6.0, MARK 2 DISCUTILITY revisions
1.2 through 2.3B, MARK 3 DISCUTILITY revisions 3.3 through 3.5,
and LOTUS DISCUTILITY revisions 1.4 through 2.5.  Details of new
revisions of IRIS will be added as they are released.  Also,
details of earlier revisions will be added in the future.

```
+---------------------------------------------------------------+
|                                                               |
|                   CURRENT IRIS REVISIONS                      |
|                                                               |
|                                                               |
|        Effective IRIS and stand-alone software                |
|        revision numbers as of 11-14-84:                       |
|                                                               |
|        IRIS 8.2C1 with CTUTILITY Rev 6.0                      |
|                                                               |
|        For MARK 5/8/9                                          |
|             DC700                 No Rev number               |
|             DISCUTILITY           Rev 2.5                     |
|             LCMDIAG1.3            Rev 1.3                     |
|             M8EXERCISER           Rev 1.0                     |
|             MUX310DP              No Rev number               |
|             STBOOTM5              No Rev number               |
|                                                               |
|        For MARK 3                                             |
|             DISCUTILITY           Rev 3.5                     |
|             FLBOOT                No Rev number               |
|             M3DISCDIAG            Rev 1.5                     |
|             M3FLOPPYDIAG          Rev 1.1                     |
|             M3MUXDIAG             Rev 1.4                     |
|             M3TAPEDIAG            Rev 2.2                     |
|             STBOOTM3              No Rev number               |
|                                                               |
|        For MARK 2                                             |
|             M2DISCUTILITY         Rev 2.3B                    |
|             M2FLBOOT              No Rev number               |
|             M2TAPEDISCDIAG        Rev 2.2                     |
|                                                               |
|        Also still available:                                  |
|                                                               |
|        IRIS 7.5A with CTUTILITY Rev L                         |
|                                                               |
+---------------------------------------------------------------+
```

# IRIS 8.2C (Released 6-84)

Major new features of IRIS 8.2C:

- Support for MARK 9 Mapped Memory

- Support for Electronic Office System

IRIS 8.2C incorporates the features and problem corrections described below:

- A REM line in a BASIC program that does not end with a carriage return (as might occur if a mistake is made in editing the text version of the BASIC program) may cause a system crash due to memory being corrupted.

- MARK 2/3 systems do not time out properly at PRESS RETURN message, thus requiring operator input to IPL (e.g., on power up).

- Auto Program Start of a BASIC program not on LU #0 results in garbage being displayed on the CRT.

- BYE gives erroneous error message (that RUN has the wrong file type) if RUN's protection is not 33.

- TYPIST modes are not cleared when logging off. This could prevent the port from logging on subsequently.

- Passing large arrays through COMMON causes problems, including Error 91, Trap 34, or system halts.

- Trap 0 occurs if COPY is used to verify or copy text files and a record-locked condition is detected.

- COPY destroys the destination LU if a damaged contiguous file is copied. "Damaged" in this case means that either (but not both) NRCD or LRCD in the header is zero.

- System does Double Trap Halt when $CTUS is used. NOTE: Other problems with $CTUS reliability still need to be resolved.

- When DSP accesses active files (i.e., F@), wrong information is displayed and sometimes Trap 0 occurs when BYEing off afterward.

- Allows CALL 99 to set time from any account if the BASIC program which uses CALL 99 is GUARDed to allow write to memory.

- Traps from BYE can leave port logged on as group 0, user 0, privilege 0.

- INSTALL often does a Double Trap Halt if the disc has just been formatted or is not an IRIS logical unit.

- Invalid BZUD pointer in CONFIG table at 1400 (i.e., the Peripherals Handbook value was not correctly entered) causes halts in INSTALL.

- Improper error message is given for protected BASIC programs.

- BASIC returns unexpectedly to SCOPE when using $MK8. (This fix was made available for 8.2B in the 8.2B Release Notes.)

- Traps occur if $MTA0 IS OPENed or accessed, and neither MTAS nor CTUS is enabled.

- Trap 32 occurs when logging on if system is heavily loaded or if using a low baud rate.

- The statement "IF <x> GOSUB <line#>" followed by a "RETURN -1" in the routine does not execute properly.

- Poor performance due to unnecessary swap between output done and start of input.

- RUN does not give a proper error message for illegal string expressions such as LET B=5*A$ or IF NOT A$ statements.

- Trap 0 in RUN if using CHF(100+N) where a contiguous file is open on channel N if current byte number accessed goes above 255.

- When reading any Polyfile data record #65534, incorrect data is returned.

- When using error control of the form "IF ERR x GOSUB line", RETURN does not always go back to the proper point after an <ESC>/<CTRL-C> is input by the user.

- After an abnormal exit from TYPIST, it was sometimes necessary to type a <CTRL-C> before any new commands could be entered.

Major new features of IRIS 8.2Cl:

- New MARK 2 disc flaw mapping to allow handling disc drives with multiple media flaws (i.e., bad sectors) in the same track.

- Support for MARK 2 floppy diskette as a low-cost backup alternative to 1/4-inch streamer tape.

- Support for 12MB CMI Winchester on MARK 2 under IRIS.

IRIS 8.2Cl incorporates the features and problem corrections described below:

General

- When using a default LU (at 620 in CONFIG), entering an existing processor or BASIC program name at the system prompt (#) could result in an occasional erroneous "NO SUCH PROCESSOR" message. (SCOPE SCO)

- System halted at location 31403 if DISCSUB 100 was not memory resident. (RUN SCO)

- When using MARK 9 Mapped Memory (i.e., CONFIG loc 402 set to 1), PSIZ had to be a multiple of 2000 octal or the system could crash when MAPACTIVATE was run. Under IRIS 8.2Cl, the system will now automatically use the next highest multiple of 2000 octal if PSIZ is not set correctly for MARK 9 Mapped memory. (SYSGM5 SCO)

ASM

- The command line and date were not output at the beginning of the listing in all cases (specifically if the listing is paged during pass one).

BASIC/RUN

- CALL 95 wrote every block it read whether mode is set to read or write. This made it impossible to read RDA=0. (DISCSUBS SCO)

- CALL $LOGIC did not operate on last byte if shortest string was DIMensioned using an odd number (i.e., not an even number). If shortest string had DIM=1, system crashed or had other unpredictable problems. (DISCSUBS SCO)

● Use of many INPUT with TIMeout statements without corresponding SIGNAL 5 or SIGNAL 6 could crash the system. (REX SCO)

● CTRL-C could be ignored if entered while program was executing a long CHAIN statement (via SCOPE). (REX SCO)

● Occasional erroneous Trap 0 or Trap 67 when using CHF (100 + channel #) with a contiguous file. (RUN SCO)

CONFIG

● Corrected a problem when using any MCT 802 or 902 disc controller (i.e., disc entries #6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, and 44) where any Trap 3 resulted in a Double Trap. This correction also improves performance by eliminating unnecessary seeks.

● Corrected a problem in disc entries #1, 23, and 47 where IPL, SHUTDOWN, and CTUTILITY would fail in trying to access a bad or marginal disc sector.

● New feature: For all MARK 2 disc entries (except floppy entry 204) handles drives with more than one bad sector per track if formatted under MARK 2 DISCUTILITY Rev 2.3B or later.

● New disc entry #204 for 5-1/4" double-sided double-density floppy diskette under MARK 2.

● New disc entry #205 for 12MB CMI Winchester disc.

DISCUTILITY (MARK 3)

● Rev 3.5 replaced Rev 3.3. See DISCUTILITY Rev History section.

DISCUTILITY (LOTUS)

● Rev 2.5 replaced Rev 2.3. See DISCUTILITY Rev History section.

INSTALL

● INSTALL <CR>, INSTALL 1 <CR>, INSTALL 2 <CR>, etc., did not work properly if disc driver table at 1400 in CONFIG extended beyond location 1777.

- INSTALL did not always give a warning nor prevent damage to the logical unit being INSTALLed if the number of cylinders was set too large in the CONFIG disc driver table for the logical unit being INSTALLed.

- INSTALL AND CLEAR sometimes aborted with the message:  NYCL TOO LARGE.  INSTALLATION TERMINATED.

## M2DISCUTILITY (MARK 2)

- Rev 2.3B replaced Rev 1.2.  See DISCUTILITY Rev History section.

## M2FLBOOT

- This new stand-alone utility for the MARK 2 (similar to FLBOOT for the MARK 3) allows loading ("booting") stand-alone programs from diskette to memory.  See IRIS R8 Operations Manual Rev 09 or later.

## M2TAPEDISCDIAG

- Rev 2.2 replaces M2TAPEDIAG Rev 1.1.  This adds diagnostics for the MARK 2 floppy (Rev 2.0), tests partial floppy discs (Rev 2.1), corrects problem invoking Western Digital internal diagnostic, uses physical instead of logical sector numbers, and allows retension of write-protected streamer tapes (Rev 2.2).

## TERMS

- TERM.WS100 and TERM.TV950 were reassembled with added support for EOS.

- TERM.VT100 sometimes failed to perform screen functions correctly and left garbage characters on the screen instead.  RUN SCO allows translation sequence of up to 12 characters.

- TERM.B4 is now on the template in preparation for future usage but should not be used until specifically announced.

# CTUTILITY Rev History

## Rev 5.6 (for IRIS 8.2B and IRIS 8.2C only) - Released 2-84

- Fixed general problem that could cause erroneous "FILE NOT FOUND" message using CTUTILITY.

- Some R7 CTUTILITY tapes were incorrectly labeled as R8 Rev 5.6. To prevent confusion with the incorrectly labeled tapes, R8 Rev 5.6 was re-released as Rev 5.7.

## Rev 5.7 (for IRIS 8.2B and IRIS 8.2C only) - Released 2-84

- See second bullet under Rev 5.6

## Rev 5.8 and 5.9 (not released)

## Rev 6.0 (for IRIS 8.2C1 only) - Released 11-14-84

- This rev of CTUTILITY gives an error message if used with wrong IRIS Rev level LU/0 cassette tape templates.

- Corrected a problem which occurred when using any MCT802 or 902 disc controller (i.e., disc entries #6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 12, 13, and 44) where any Trap 3 resulted in a Double Trap. This correction also improves performance by eliminating unnecessary seeks.

- Corrected a problem with disc entries #1, 23, and 47 where IPL, SHUTDOWN, and CTUTILITY would fail when trying to access a bad or marginal disc sector.

- New Feature: for all MARK 2 disc entries (except floppy entry #204) added the ability to handle drives with more than one bad sector per track if formatted under MARK 2 DISCUTILITY Rev 2.3B or later.

- New disc entry #204 for 5-1/4" double-sided double-density floppy diskette under MARK 2.

- New disc entry #205 for 12MB CMI Winchester disc under MARK 2.

# M2DISCUTILITY (MARK 2) Rev History

**Rev 1.2 - Released 6-84 on 8.2C LU/0 template**

- Prepares for future capability to read 20MB 1/4" streamer tapes on 45MB drives.

**Rev 1.3 through 1.9 - (not released)**

**Rev 2.0**

- Provides SAVE and RESTORE capability using 5-1/4" double-sided double-density floppy diskette.

**Rev 2.1 through 2.3A - (not generally released on template)**

**Rev 2.3B - Released 11-14-84 on 8.2C1 LU/0 template**

- New feature allows using disc drives with more than one bad sector per track.

- Provides support for

- Improved general reliability and error handling.

- Corrects serious problem in Rev 2.2 which causes backups of a 45MB Atasi disc drive to be unreliable (see October 84 Customer Support Bulletin for more information on Rev 2.2).

# DISCUTILITY (MARK 3) Rev History

**Rev 3.3 - Released 2-84 on 8.2B LU/0 template**

- New feature allows handling of disc drives with bad tracks which are concentrated on one or more surfaces. This new MARK 3 alternate track chaining (flaw mapping) allows drives to be used which Format, under previous revisions of DISCUTILITY, would have rejected as unsuitable for use under IRIS.

### CAUTION

A MARK 3 drive formatted under Rev 3.3 or later must be used under IRIS 8.2A or later or IRIS 7.5A or later revisions. Use of IRIS revisions prior to 8.2A or 7.5A could cause incorrect sectors to be accessed and damaged data.

**Rev 3.4 - (not generally released)**

- Provides support for Fujitsu 168 MB 8" disc drive.

**Rev 3.5 - Released 11-14-84 on 8.2C1 LU/0 template**

- Prepares for future capability to read 20MB 1/4" streamer tapes on 45MB drives.

# DISCUTILITY (LOTUS) Rev History

**Rev 1.4 - Released approximately 9-80**

This revision has three serious problems:

- Uses less reliable 8-pass format/analyze.

- ECC correction is unreliable and can result in wrong data without error indication.

- Any DISCUTILITY function resulting in soft errors must be repeated until no soft errors are reported for reliable operation.

**Rev 1.5 through 2.0 - Not generally released**

**Rev 2.1 - Released 3-83**

- Uses improved 5-pass format/analyze

- Added program options:  Quick format, Verify, IPL, Redisplay, and Convert (MARK 3).

- Corrects ECC problems.

- Any DISCUTILITY function resulting in soft errors does not have to be repeated because the disc transfer was successfully completed (either by retry or by ECC correction).

- Allows selective cylinder option.

**Rev 2.2 - Released approximately 4-83**

- Corrects problem in Convert (MARK 3).

- Corrects problem in ECC correction.

- Added X-on and X-off capability to pause and resume output.

- Corrects error in parameters displayed in help message for LARK 2.

- Corrects (increases) the total number of cylinders used for NEC42.

**Rev 2.3 - Released 1-84 on 8.2A LU/0 template**

- Allows SAVE, RESTORE, and VERIFY using 1/4" streamer tape.

# DISCUTILITY (LOTUS) Rev History - Continued

Rev 2.4 - Released 6-84 on 8.2C LU/0 template

● Revised Convert option to handle any MARK 3 discs including those formatted under MARK 3 DISCUTILITY 3.3 or later.

Rev 2.5 - Released 11-14-84 on 8.2C1 LU/0 template

● Prepares for future capability to read 20MB 1/4" streamer tapes on 45MB drives.

● Created separate entry for Fujitsu 168MB 8" drive (NOTE: under LOTUS, the 8" drive and the 14" drive do not really need different parameters as are needed on MARK 3).