General addendum and comments for DEC RAINBOW users.

Introduction.

This addendum contains the following sections:-

    Use of the RAINBOW keyboard.
    General comments and changes to the manual.
    Hints on the use of LINK and COPY.

DMS uses the CP/M 80 option on the RAINBOW.

Use of special keys on the RAINBOW keyboard.

Your DMS will be ready configured for the RAINBOW, so you will only need to use option A (CONFIGURE) for changes to the printer width. Should you upset the configuration, you can reset it by selecting the VT100 screen format.

The normal cursor control keys can be used in setting up MASK and LETTER layouts. DMS also makes use of the up arrow key which is on the right of the main keyboard and should not be confused with the cursor up key on the middle set of keys.

In MASK and LETTER set up, and in MASK updates, you use the 'Insert here' key to move text to the right ready for insertion of a character. Use the 'Remove key' to delete a character from the screen.

In MASK and LETTER set up, the HELP key will display a list of available commands. When you get to know these commands you can press the escape key (F6) immediately followed by the required command, thus avoiding the display of all the available commands.

LETTER set up allows you to press the 'prev screen' key to go to the top of the letter.

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Please note the following general changes and comments

Section 2.12 field 3, downward position should be 0 not 60.

At the end of page 2.9, insert "Exit BACKUP, return to the main menu
and exit DMS."

In processing there is now an option to view records before processing them.

The following concern the letter writer:-

6.9 There is an extra command that allows you to justify text on the
screen, the command (via the escape key) is V.

Stopping the automatic justification of text requires an up arrow only,
not, as the manual says, N followed by up arrow.

If you want text indented, or spaces left in a paragraph, then type in
left arrows. The left arrow will be displayed on the screen as a normal
character but will not be printed.
e.g. <<<<<Dear Sir, will indent the line by 5 spaces.

Appendix 7, page 7:1. Add the following paragraph.

It is worth noting that these codes are only signals to DMS to move the
cursor in the specified direction. It is not necessary to define the
codes used by your terminal to effect these functions. i.e. If your
terminal requires the code sequence escape<A> to move the cursor up,
DMS will still accept the single code ^E (or any other in the range
above)

When the cursor control codes are received by DMS, the cursor movement
is performed by using the direct cursor addressing sequence for your
terminal. Thus the cursor can be controlled by single keystrokes
regardless of the sequence required by the terminal.

VERIFY

There is a program supplied with DMS called VERIFY. This program checks
the validity of a DMS file and updates the record count and the index.
It is not part of the DMS menu and should be run straight from CP/M or
MSDOS. Copy VERIFY onto your DMS master disk and run it by typing
VERIFY. You will then be asked for the drive and the name of the file
to be verified.
This program will also check a file for disk errors. It is quite fast
and, if you are having disk problems, should be run prior to back ups.

BROWSE and MASK

Under the BROWSE and MASK (Sections 8 and 9, input data) options,
it is not possible to amend the contents of the "Key Field."

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BACKUP

> The DMS backup option should only be used for situations where a DMS
> file is too large to fit on 1 diskette. This normally occurs when using
> a Winchester disk.
> If you are on a floppy based system it is best to use your disk to disk
> copy routine, or, failing that, a file to file copy utility.

DO NOT

EVER CHANGE DISKETTES, UNLESS PROMPTED TO BY DMS, OR AFTER LEAVING DMS.

TRY AND CHANGE ANY DMS FILES OUTSIDE OF DMS.

RENAME DMS FILES, UNLESS YOU ARE SURE YOU KNOW WHAT YOU ARE DOING.

DO

KEEP REGULAR BACKUPS OF YOUR DATA.

DMS - LINK/COPY additional information

Introduction

This document is not to be used in place of the manual. It deals with some of the most common problems that users encounter when trying to use the LINK and COPY options. As far as we know there are no bugs in LINK or COPY, so read the manual and then this additional information sheet.

There are some general notes, two examples and some things to do if you have problems.

Some facts about LINK

1. LINK is like the standard report except that the output goes to a 'sequential' file on disk.
2. You do not need to output all the fields from a file.
3. You can output the fields in any order.
4. DMS will allocate an extension name of MRG to the output file of a LINK run. e.g. if you supplied a name of JOBOUT the file will actually be called JOBOUT.MRG.
5. You can sort and select prior to doing a link. However if the output of the LINK is to go into a COPY you do not need to sort first.
6. Most wordprocessors will read a LINKed file, remember to tell the wordprocessor to use the correct file name.

Some facts about COPY

1. COPY is like using KEY, except that the input comes from a disk.
2. The input file must have a name with an extension of .MRG.
3. You do not need to reference all the fields on either the input file or the DMS file.
4. Field numbers start at 1 on the input file. So, even if the first field on the input file was not field number 1 on the LINKed DMS file it will be called field 1 in COPY.
5. When COPY finds that a record exists on the DMS file, it will UPDATE it. You can replace character and date fields , or add/subtract/replace numeric fields.
6. When COPY can't find a matching record on the DMS file, it will CREATE one.
7. You must have a field on the input file to match against the key field on the DMS file.

When is INPUT OUTPUT?

The confusion in some peoples mind about when files are input or output files stems from one misconception. A file is a file, it is neither an input file nor an output file until a program reads it or writes it, in much the same way a cheque is neither a credit nor a debit until it is paid out of or into an account.
Therefore the .MRG file that LINK produces is an output file from LINK, but an input file to COPY.

DMS - LINK/COPY additional information

Example 1 - A simple file restructure.

Object

To take the information from a DMS file called PERS1 and move it to a different layout file called PERSNEW.

The two files:-

PERS1	PERSNEW
1. PERSON NUMBER	1. PERSON NUMBER
2. NAME	2. NAME
3. ADDRESS	3. ADDRESS
4. TELE NO	4. TELEPHONE NO
5. DATE BIRTH	5. NEXT OF KIN
6. NEXT OF KIN	6. DATE BIRTH
7. ENTRY DATE	7. ENTRY DATE
8. LEFT DATE	8. COMMENT

STEP 1
Create the file PERSNEW

STEP 2
Log on (option N) to PERS1
Use LINK to produce an output file containing fields 1,2,3,4,5,6,7, and call the file OLDINFO (note the file will be called OLDINFO.MRG)

STEP 3
Log on to PERSNEW
Enter COPY and use OLDINFO as the input file.
DMS will then ask where each field on the input file is to go on the DMS file (i.e. we are taking fields from the input file OLDINFO.MRG and updating the DMS file PERSNEW)
Reply in the following way to the questions about the fields:-

Input field number	DMS field number	Update operator
1	1	=
2	2	=
3	3	=
4	4	=
5	6	=
6	5	=
7	7	=

N.B. PERS1 field 8 is not moved across
PERSNEW field 8 is not updated
Fields 5 and 6 are swapped.

DMS - LINK/COPY additional information

Example 2 - A simple file update

Object

Take information from a file called JOBS and produce a summary of costs and budgets on another file called JOBTYPE.

The two file are:

JOB	JOBTYPE
1. JOB NUMBER	1. JOB TYPE
2. JOB TYPE	2. BUDGET
3. CUSTOMER NAME	3. COST
4. JOB TYPE	4. COMMENT
5. BUDGET	
6. COST	
7. COMMENT	
8. FINISHED FLAG	

STEP 1
Log onto JOB

STEP 2
Use LINK (possibly with a selection on the finished flag) to output fields 2,5 and 6 to a file called JOBPASS.

STEP 3
Log on to JOB TYPE
Enter COPY and use JOBPASS as input.
DMS will ask what you want to do with each field on the input file, reply as follows:

Input field number	DMD field number	Update operation
1	1	=
2	2	+
3	3	+

N.B. Although the field on the COPY input file are refered to as 1,2 and 3, they came from fields 2,5 and 6 on the LINKed DMS master.
The use of + to add the fields to the DMS file.

DMS - LINK/COPY additional information

Things to do when LINK/COPY doesn't work

Check that you changed the logged file between LINK and COPY.

Make sure you are reading the correct file into COPY.

If you are using stored LINK parameters, make sure you have the correct ones.

Make sure that the field you have specified as the key field, on the input file in COPY, is the correct one.

Make sure that the number and type of fields on the input file in COPY agree with the stored COPY parameters you are using.

Use DIR and STAT to make sure that the file from LINK looks OK.

Make sure it has not been allocated a size of 0 K.

Make sure that it is called something .MRG

Try looking at the file with your word processor, DON'T CHANGE ANYTHING.

Run VERIFY on the file and try LINKing again. VERIFY is a program supplied on the DMS distribution disk and is run straight from CPM/MSDOS by exiting DMS and typing VERIFY. It will then ask you which file you wish to verify.

WE DO NOT KNOW OF ANY BUGS IN LINK AND COPY!!.

A typical .MRG file from a personnel file with fields NAME, ADDRESS, DATE OF BIRTH, SALARY would look like this:-

"Bloggs Fred","Flat 2, The High Street","27JAN60","2000"c/r"Smith Henry","The Willows, York Road","12SEP55,"4500"c/r"Bently Susan" etc. etc.

N.B. c/r = carriage return

Things to do when LINK/COPY doesn't work

Check that you changed the logged file between LINK and COPY.

Make sure you are reading the correct file into COPY.

If you are using stored LINK parameters, make sure you have the correct ones.

Make sure that the field you have specified as the key field, on the input file in COPY, is the correct one.

Make sure that the number and type of fields on the input file in COPY agree with the stored COPY parameters you are using.

Use DIR and STAT to make sure that the file from LINK looks OK.

Make sure it has not been allocated a size of 0 K.

Make sure that it is called something .MRG.

Try looking at the file with your word processor, DON'T CHANGE ANYTHING.

Run VERIFY on the file and try LINKing again. VERIFY is a program supplied on the DMS distribution disk and is run straight from CEW/MDOS by exiting DMS and typing VERIFY. It will then ask you which file you wish to verify.

WE DO NOT **KNOW** OF ANY BUGS IN LINK AND COPY!!!.

A typical MRG file from a personal file with fields NAME, ADDRESS, DATE OF BIRTH, SALARY would look like this:-

"Bloggs Fred","Flat 1, The High Street","27/JAN/80","1000"c/r"Smith Henry","The Willows, York Road","1/MAR/51","500"c/r"Jones Emily" Street", etc. etc.

N.B. c/r = carriage return