

December 1, 1979

To the users of OMSI Pascal-1 for the PDP-11:

We are pleased to make available to you the new version (V1.2) of OMSI Pascal-1. V1.2 contains many enhancements and improvements, and you will find it easier to operate and even more reliable. The following overview outlines the most significant changes incorporated in the new version. For details, please ask for the V1.2 Language Specification and User's Guide(s).

Extended precision real arithmetic: a compiler switch causes all real calculations to be carried out with 15 digit precision (standard PDP-11 double precision four-word format). Extended precision is supported on all PDP-11 and LSI-11 processors, and on all operating systems. The precision of the library functions is also extended.

Debugger: the interactive debugger is now entirely Pascal-oriented, and is conversant with all user identifiers, types, scope rules, and the source program. The debugger has the capability, for example, to intercept a fatal error and display the last executed statements, or to accept and store commands for display of variables at a breakpoint.

Profiler: if you have ever wondered where your program spends its time, the Profiler can produce a listing and show you the number of times every line is executed.

Fatal error recovery: the system error procedure can be replaced by a Pascal-coded routine.

Direct access files: the procedure Seek(file,record) is a built-in procedure, and causes the file buffer to be positioned to any desired record.

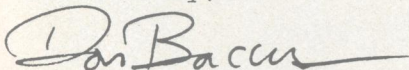
File options: many enhancements have been made in file processing, allowing (for example) large buffers and spanned records on RSTS and RT11, and RSX file attributes including variable-length records. The RSTS file support uses 24-bit block numbers for RSTS V7 large file capability. All systems now support a full default filename when opening files.

Fast MACRO: most of the compilation time is actually spent in MACRO and the linking loader. On RSTS systems, a new utility (MAC) performs both of these functions in one-third of the time.

String package: included with V1.2 is a set of procedures and functions for handling dynamic length character strings. The package is written for portability in Standard Pascal.

Order information: to OMSI Pascal-1 licensees in warranty or extended support, V1.2 is available for the cost of handling, media, and shipping; other parties please contact Anne Smith, Vice-president for Sales.

Yours truly,



Donald Baccus
Vice-president, Software Engineering.