INFORMATION DISPLAY DIVISION

4052/4054 VERSION 4.3 FIRMWARE

Version 4.3 firmware is now being shipped in 4052s and 4054s. Listed below are the problems that were corrected to the 4.2 firmware that rolls the firmware level to 4.3.

1. System Error Message Writer

PROBLEM: The System Error Writer routine in the 4054 prints the same data on the screen no matter what the error was or what caused it. The routine works correctly in the 4052.

COMMENT: The system message is very useful in making a determination of a problem that causes "System Errors".

2. Memory Over-Write Problem

PROBLEM: Memory is being over-written. Picture composition Plot 50 software fails sometimes with system errors, line numbers with invalid error messages, or system hangs and line numbers with meaningless characters and a lot of parentheses in them.

3. Memory Compress

PROBLEM: A status bit was being lost during a memory compress.

COMMENT: This memory compress failure was difficult to program around. But if all forced memory compress functions were performed outside of the User Definable Keys, System Errors were usually avoided.

4. 4054 Random Vector on Break-Break

PROBLEM: A vector would be drawn if an immediate halt is forced by break-break while running a program.

5. 4052/54 Hang on Call Header

PROBLEM: The 4052 or 4054 will hang and lockup if header is called when the tape is at file 0 (rewound) or if no tape is present.

6. 4054 Emulating 4014 Inquiry Response

PROBLEM: When in Terminal Mode and prompted with ESC-ESC by the host, the 4054 responds too fast.

7. 4054 12 Bit Graphics in Terminal Mode

PROBLEM: The 4054 in Terminal Mode had graphic capabilities of 10 bit resolution only. This caused distortion in vectors when a host was sending 12 bit graphics.

8. 4054 Opt 30 Hardcopy Bloom

PROBLEM: The 4054 operating system processor advances to the next item for processing if the Opt 30 hand shakes the previous display command. This sequence was supposed to be preceded by a test to determine if the display controller or display is busy.

9. Print @40,31: Does Not Clear CR Count

PROBLEM: The CR count does not continue to decrement as data is pulled from the buffer after the buffer is disabled. It worked as long as the buffer was enabled.

10. Call BLKCHR, Wrong Numbers

PROBLEM: Call BLKCHR will allow 0 thru 127 ASCII to be entered as parameters. However, the functions only use 0 thru 31 ASCII. Call PRLIST displays 0 thru 31 ASCII if 0 thru 31 are entered, or 0 thru 31 ASCII if 32 thru 63 are entered, etc.

COMMENT: 4.3 firmware tests the numbers passed with the CALL, and sets an error code if the values are greater than ASCII 31.

Listed in Figure 1 is a table showing the ROM checksums using the Diagnostic ROM PACK for all firmware levels previously and currently shipped in 4052s and 4054s.

To check system ROM checksums without the patches, remove the even and odd FPLAs -- U485 and U863.

The serial number breaks for level 4.3 firmware are:

4052 -- B024078 and up 4054 -- B011753 and up

The MAS board changes from a 670-6030-04 to a 670-6030-06 with 32K RAM memory and from 672-0799-03 to 672-0799-05 with 64K RAM memory.

The part numbers for version 4.3 kits are:

050-1402-01 to upgrade from 4.1 or 4.2 to 4.3 050-1282-03 to upgrade from 2.1, 3.1, or 3.2 to 4.3

This is not a Service Update Program; customers that are on maintenance agreement, warranty or rental will not be charged for the upgrade. All other customers will be charged as follows:

If the MAS board is exchanged, the upgrade is included in the exchange price. If the customer wants the upgrade, the customer pays the O5O kit price plus labor and travel.

Fig. 1 to complete article is on the following page.

--Darrell McGiverin 63/503, Ext. 3786

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