

Network Working Group
RFC # 449
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Updates RFC 442

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The Current Flow-control Scheme for IMPSYS.

While Vint's notes on IMPSYS flow-control from the March 16, 1972, meeting (RFC 442) seem reasonably accurate and while he does cite our Quarterly Technical Report #13, he might have done better to cite BBN's two formal publications relevant to the IMPSYS flow-control scheme:

1. McQuillan et al, Improvements in the Design and Performance of the ARPA Network, Proceedings AFIPS 1972 FJCC, pp. 741-754.
2. BBN Report 1822, Specifications for the Interconnection of a Host and an IMP, December 1972 Revision, section 3, pp. 17-35.

Reference 2 is particularly important reading for NCP programmers - things have recently changed somewhat.

The inter-IMP acknowledgement mechanism, described in the last section of Vint's RFC 442, is also described in reference 1 and an almost identical mechanism is described in Appendix F of reference 2. The acknowledgement is of only intellectual interest to most Hosts as it is transparent to network users. However, the description in reference 2 is of vital interest to so-called Very Distant Hosts.

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