



## User Interface

# The Console



- § Controls the display and the keypad
- § The console must be opened prior to any console, keypad, or display function call
- § `hConsole = open(DEV_CONSOLE, 0);`
  - Clears key buffer
  - Sets font to the default
  - Clears display
  - Turns cursor off
  - Sets contrast to default

# Console Ownership



## § Verix mediates sharing of the console among tasks

- A task that successfully opens the console become its owner, preventing other tasks from using it
- The owner task can relinquish the console to allow other tasks to use it

# Transfer Console Ownership



- § Press the hotkey
- § Press the system mode keys ([F2]+[F4])
- § Call `activate_task()` (console owner only)

# Basic Console Functions



- § open
- § close
- § read
- § write

# The Display



## § Display size is based on the font

- 6x8 font: 8 lines x 21 characters  
(Default size for ASCII)
- 8x16 font: 4 lines x 16 characters
- 16x16 font: 4 lines x 8 characters

## § Other fonts may be downloaded as files

## § Graphic images may be displayed by creating custom font files or through direct pixel writes

# Display Functions



§ `write(CONSOLE, buffer, len)`

§ `write_at (buffer, len, x, y)`

§ `clrscr(void)`

§ `clreol(void)`

§ `gotoxy(x, y);`

§ `display(buffer)`

§ `display_at(column, line, buffer, clr_option);`

# Display Functions



§ window(x1, y1, x2, y2)

§ wherecur(\*x, \*y)

§ wherewin(\*x1, \*y1, \*x2, \*y2)

§ wherewincur(\*x, \*y)

§ set\_cursor(flag)

§ set\_backlight(flag)

§ SVC\_INFO\_DISPLAY(buf\_6)



# Prompts



§ `int prompt(hClock, prompt_str, wait, options);`

Displays null-terminated string at current line and column position for specified period of time or keypress.

§ `int prompt_at(hClock, col, line, prompt_str, wait, opt);`

Displays null-terminated string at specified line and column for specified time or keypress.

# Using Fonts



§ Font files have a .vft or .fon extension

**Each .VFT font includes 128bytes (fixed)**

- The console driver supports font files up to 65,536 characters.
- If the font file is 256 characters or less, the console driver can retrieve characters with a one-byte index
- the specified font file size is greater than 256 characters, the console driver uses two bytes for every character displayed:

# Using Fonts



- § Font files may be created using the Font Generation Tool
- § Font files are located in:
  - <install dir>\font generation tool\samples
- § Download font files as a binary image
  - e.g. `ddl appl.out -iK2_16x16.vft`
- § `set_font(font_name)`
- § `get_font(*font_name)`
- § `get_font_mode(void)`

# LAB Exercise



## **LAB3:** Count down application using the display

Write a simple procedure that displays the counting down of a number from a fixed start value to zero.

# Keypad



## § 12-key Telco-style keypad

([0] – [9], [\*], [#])

## § Four function keys:

- [ALPHA]
- [X] Cancel
- [←] Backspace
- [↵] Enter

## § Eight screen-addressable keys:

- Programmable function keys [PF1] – [PF4]
- ATM-Style function keys [F1] – [F4]

# Key Beeps



§ By default, key presses are accompanied with a normal beep (key beep).

§ To disable key beeps:

- `disable_key_beeps( )`

§ To enable key beeps:

- `enable_key_beeps( )`
- `key_beeps(int flag)`
  - **Flag = 1: beeps enabled**
  - **Flag = 0: beeps disabled**

# Data Read Functions



There are two functions to read value of key entry

- read()           //non-blocked
- get\_char()      //blocked

Key Value												
Key Value	F1	F2	F3	F4	X1	X2	X3	X4	X	<	Alpha	Enter
<b>read() HEX</b>	0xfa	0xfb	0xfc	0xfd	0xe1	0xe2	0xe3	0xe4	0x9b	0x88	0x8f	0x8d
<b>get_char() HEX</b>	0x01	0x02	0x03	0x04	0x61	0x62	0x63	0x64	0x1b	0x08	0x0f	0x0d
<b>get_char() ASCII</b>					<b>a</b>	<b>b</b>	<b>c</b>	<b>d</b>				<b>\r</b>
<b>KEY</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>#</b>
<b>read() HEX</b>	0xb1	0xb2	0xb3	0xb4	0xb5	0xb6	0xb7	0xb8	0xb9	0xb0	0xaa	0xa3
<b>get_char() HEX</b>	0x31	0x32	0x33	0x34	0x35	0x36	0x37	0x38	0x39	0x30	0x2a	0x23
<b>get_char() ASCII</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>#</b>

# Data Entry Functions



§ `int SVC_KEY_NUM(dest_buff, max, frac, punctuate);`

**Gets formatted decimal number from keypad. (Counted String)**

§ `int SVC_KEY_TXT(dest_buff, type, max, min, keymap, keymap_len);`

**Gets formatted input from keypad. (Counted String)**



# Data Entry Functions



```
§ int getkbd_entry(hClock, msg,  
buffer, wait, type, keymap,  
keymap_len, va_list);
```

**Provides display and keypad entry functions.  
Returns a Null-Terminated String**

```
char szKeyMap [MAX_ALPNUM_KEYS][CHAR_PER_KEY] =  
{ "0- +%", "1QZ.\\", "2ABC&", "3DEF!", "4GHI@", "5JKL/",  
  "6MNO_", "7PRS^", "8TUV{", "9WXY}", "*", "'\\":", "#=; $?" };
```

# Data Entry Functions



§ `int keyin_amt_range(dest_buff, amt_fmt, max, min, frac);`

**Uses SVC\_KEY\_NUM() to accept amount entry within a maximum and minimum amount range.**

§ `int keyin_mapped (key_map);`

**Limits the keys that can be entered. Useful for Y/N responses. key\_map is created by ORing the values of all allowed keys as defined in aclconio.h**

# Keypad Functions



§ `int kbd_pending_count(void);`

**Returns the number of keystrokes available for reading.  
Max 20, Min 0.**

§ `int KBHIT(void);`

**Determine the number of unprocessed keys in the buffer.  
Uses `kbd_pending_count()`**

§ `int get_char(void)`

**Wait for a key to be pressed.**

# Keypad Functions



§ `int SVC_INFO_KBD (char *buf);`

**Fills the buffer with a 1-byte keyboard type**

§ `int kbd_pending_test(int t);`

§ `int act_kbd_pending_test(int t);`

**Checks if the target character is present in the keyboard buffer.**

# The Beeper



- § Generates audible tones
- § Two types of sounds are defined
  - Normal Tone      1200 Hz for 50 msec
  - Error Tone        889 Hz for 100 msec
- § By default, a key press will generate a normal tone
  - Key press tones can be disabled and enabled
- § The use of normal and error tones are used within the application appropriately

# The Beeper



`sound(note, millisecond)` API has been introduced

- § 96 distinctive tones can be played
- § No need to settle with `error_tone` and `normal_tone`

# The Beeper



- § The beeper is a shared device and is implicitly opened.
- § The beeper may be explicitly opened in order to prevent other applications from using it. Likewise, if the beeper is explicitly opened it must be explicitly closed.

Open            `hBeeper = open(DEV_BEEPER, 0);`

Close           `status = close(hBeeper);`

- § To immediately squelch the beeper use:

`beeper_off()`

# Emitting Tones



`normal_tone( )`

`error_tone( )`

`beep( type )`

`NORM_BEEP( )`

`ERR_BEEP( )`



# LAB Exercise



## LAB4: Beeper and Keypad

Obtain the start count from the user via the key pad.  
Make use of normal and error beeper tones to  
indicate progress and completion of the countdown.

# The Message Engine



- § Designed to retrieve prompts and messages from a message file
- § All static prompts and messages:
  - Are removed from the application
  - Stored in separate “message files”

# The Message Engine



## § Advantages of using message files:

- Code size is reduced because data is stored to a file in the file system
- Data is not compiled as part of the application
- Messages/prompts are easily maintained (grouped in to a file)
- If a data file is modified, the file can be updated and downloaded rather than the entire application
- Makes it easy to switch languages for display and printing

# Using The Message Engine



- § Create an ASCII message file that contains the prompts/messages
- § Run TXOFILE.EXE on the message file to generate files useable by the terminal
- § Download the message file created by txofile to the terminal
- § Use the APIs to access the messages

# Message File Format



- § The message file is an ASCII file that contains one #define directive for each message.
- § Each line in the message file should conform to the following format:

```
#define [name] [value] /* Message number for  
                        "<message>" */
```

- § When TXOFILE process the input file, the 'value' becomes the record number and the 'quoted string' within the comments becomes the message text

- § For example:

```
#define STARTVAL 1/*"Enter Starting Value"*/  
#define BLAST      2 /*"BLAST OFF"*/  
#define COUNT      3 /*"COUNTDOWN" */
```

# Converting the Message File



## § TXOFILE syntax for converting a message file:

- `txofile <input file name> <output file name>`

## § For example, say your message file is called “mymsgs.txt”:

- `txofile mymsgs.txt mymsgs.dat`

## § `#include mymsgs.txt` in your application

## § Download `mymsgs.dat` to the terminal with your application

# API Functional Reference



## § To use the Message Engine

- `#include message.h`

## § To use your message file, include the message file

- `#include <mymsgs.txt>`

## § Within your application you must first select the message file you want to use

- Only one message file can be selected at any one time
- You may have as many message files as you wish (memory-dependent)

– `msg_select_file(filename.dat)`

# API Functional Reference



§ After the message file is selected, use the following functions to retrieve messages:

- `msg_get(msg_num, buffer);`
  - This function will retrieve the message from the selected message file and store it into the application buffer.
- `msg_display_at(col, line, msg_num, buffer, clr_option)`
  - This function is similar to the `display_at()` function but includes retrieving the message from the selected message file



# String Handling - Types of Strings



## Null Terminated String

**A character string ending with NULL**

H	O	W	D	Y	\0
---	---	---	---	---	----

- **Counted String**

**A string whose first byte is a count of all string elements, including the count**

6	H	O	W	D	Y
---	---	---	---	---	---

# String Conversion



## § Counted string to Null-Terminated string

- `int SVC_CS2AZ( zs_buff, cs_buff )`
- `char *ctons1(buffer)`

## § Null-Terminated string to Counted string

- `int SVC_AZ2CS(cs_buffer, zs_buff)`
- `char *ntocs(dest_buff, sourc_buff)`

# String Utilities



## § Integer (or Long) to Null-Terminated string

- `void int2str(dest_buff, value)`
- `void long2str(dest_buff, long_val)`
- `char ltoa(long_val, buff, radix)`
- `char ultoa(us_long, buff, radix)`

## § Null-Terminated string to Integer (or Long)

- `int str2int(buffer)`
- `int strn2int(buffer)`
- `int chars2int(buffer, buff_len)`
- `long str2long(buffer)`

# String Utilities



## § Purge all characters not digits in a string

- `int str2digit(buffer)`

## § Remove all occurrences of a character from a string

- `int purge_char(buffer, rem_char)`

## § Delete a single character from a string

- `int delete_char(buffer, char_pos)`

## § Convert case of string

- `void strnlwr( dest, source, size)`
- `void strnupr( dest, source, size)`

# String Utilities



## § Counted string to Integer

- `unsigned int SVC_2INT(source)`

## § Integer to Counted String

- `void SVC_INT2 (unsigned int value, buffer)`

## § Convert ASCII hex to binary byte value

- `BYTE atox (BYTE char)`

## § Convert Hex to ASCII and ASCII to Hex

- `void SVC_HEX_2_DSP(hex_buff, buff, len)`
- `void SVC_DSP_2_HEX(buff, hex_buff, len)`

# String Utilities



## § Append a Character to a String

- `int append_char(buffer, char)`

## § Insert Char into a String

- `int insert_char(buffer, position, char)`

## § Insert a Decimal Point in an Amount String

- `int insert_decimal(buffer)`

## § Format a String as a Dollar Amount

- `void f_dollar(buff, precision, dol_flag, dol_format)`

# String Utilities



## § Pad a Null-Terminated String

- `int pad(dest_buf, src_buf, pad_char, pad_size, align)`

## § Compress (Decompress) ASCII Data

- `int SVC_PACK4(dest, src, size)`

### **Compress**

- `int SVC_UNPK4(dest, src, size)`

### **Decompress**

## § Compare String to a Control String

- `char sgetf(src, control, args )`

## § Format a String

- `char sputf(store_buff, next_cs, args)`

# String Utilities



## § Concatenate Multiple Strings to a Buffer

- `int mult_strcat(buff, va_arg_list)`

## § Copy a Field from a Source buffer to a Dest Buff

- `int fieldcnt(srs, start, count, dest)`

## § Copy a Data String from a Source buffer to a Dest buffer

- `int fieldfix(src, start, size, dest)`
- `int fieldray(src, start, stop, dest)`

## § Copy variable data field from Source to Dest buffer

- `int fieldvar(source, field_num, delimiter, dest)`



# LAB Exercise



## LAB5: Using the Message Engine

Appreciate the usage of the message engine. Put all literal strings in an external text file, convert it into a message file and use it in application execution.

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