

The Unofficial Alternative
to Private Eye's
Bumper Book of Boobs

The Bumper Book of Technical Boobs

(Slightly) edited by Sophie Watson

Most of the gems on the following pages were, thankfully, picked up at the editing stage. One or two slipped through into printed books; some didn't even get as far as first draft stage. We have wondered for a long time about the mentality of the people who write this sort of thing; now you, too, can sit at your desk and try to figure out what these technical authors (yes, they actually get paid for this!) and engineers are on, where they got it from and whether they will give you some.

Happy reading!

Issue date: December 2007

Foreword to August 2001 edition

The Book of Boobs has now been going for over ten years, and technology has changed in that time. E-mail boobs, website boobs and helpdesk boobs are now included for the first time, as are a few boobs that are not really technical, but that amused the Editor or the contributors enough for them to be deemed worthy of inclusion. We hope that you will enjoy the new, enhanced, Millennium Edition of the Bumper Book of Technical Boobs.

Foreword to October 2002 edition

The Book of Boobs is going great guns and has recently enjoyed a major addition to its fan base courtesy of the ISTC! As a result, I have decided to make it easier for people to send me updates by setting up a new, dedicated e-mail address: techboobs@btinternet.com. If you have a boob you would like to share, please e-mail it to me at this address. Only genuine boobs will be accepted; if I have any doubts as to the validity of an entry it will be omitted, so no apocryphal stories please!

(Note change of e-mail address – new ISP in 2007)

All names of products, brands, companies and individuals have been edited out to protect the guilty. Hopefully this has not altered the lack of meaning of any of the relevant excerpts.

Insert each ECL connector into the back side of the distribution panel...

The underlying philosophy is to maximise design as a marketing tool by ensuring that not only do products within a range exhibit a common "style" BUT that the company's product submissions for an environment project a quality and consistent image that reflects our Brand Image and promotes the perception of the company as a Hi Tech, Hi Touch problem solver.

To enable this philosophy...

(...click on the appropriate icon) – Ed.

Circuit cross connections are generally performed in wiring closets using distribution hardware.

Once you have added an external system and any special automatic login sequences, it is a good idea to make the connection, making sure everything is working like it should.

Note Although similar to the selection made from the DeskTop, the selection from the Autodial/Login set-up is different.

The monitor acts as a controller the purpose of which is explained elsewhere in this document.

The differing demands for access requires the usage of priority.

The way this is done is by way of an adjustment algorithm. This operates as below.

The following sections describes the process by which election of the monitor node is undertaken.

The system dramatically increases the time needed to install a device onto the network...

Electronic Mail cannot be read by anyone.

It is eventually intended that this will be done by clicking on the appropriate draw in a representation of a filing cabinet.

This end-to-end vision of networking completes a process, begun in 1987, of rolling out four phases of connectivity to provide a platform for customers' evolving requirements into the 90s.

If, however, the call has been released, the call is recalled to the most idle console in the group.

Most of this work is available, and is aimed at how to find the problem areas for any particular 'fault' to make changes to and/or do fixes to the system.

A 'How to do it' needs to be done.

A deleted alarm is displayed as a dimmed, bright black on black, image.

A further press of the button gets the system to identify clusters of processes in which clusters of processes have strong affinity with other processes in the cluster and less affinity with those outside.

The Scheduling Engine takes in and validates the test request, checking the requester's authority to request that particular test.

Use ENTER to exit...

Textually examine the screen menu and select the cable required.

The Shutdown option gives access to the facility which enables you to execute an orderly termination of system activities.

When the task is closed the number of the OOH MO will be recorded on the task. The security level of an MO determine whether they can use the OOH facility. An UM can also use the OOH facility and have access to the same functions as an OOH MO.

Secure the hold-down hardware according to the following procedure:

(This was later translated as 'Fix the slide nuts as follows') – Ed.

This is a network access method whereby the sender listens to the system while sending the message, and if a collision with another sender is detected during transmission, the sender waits until the line is clear.

By means of the Service Terminal, also the tests and loopbacks possibly required in fault location can be made.

As the customer premises equipment (CPE) businesses liberalised in many countries, many corporations used leased bandwidth from operator, added sophisticated CPE to develop networks often more advanced in terms of features and functions than many PTT's.

Thus, the ability of a product to fit into an overall management scheme is essential to be viable especially internationally.

Never before has the demand on the network operator been higher to understand the needs of the customer and deliver the management feature and functions that the customer needs to ensure that his communications assets delivers the individual needs of his business.

L ... LIST LODTAB AND PROC CREATION LIST

(This appeared in a screen menu)

The connection is a point-to-point scenario...

The system's propriety connectivity is the daisy-chained coaxial bus topology with termination T-pieces at the rear of each device.

If this happens the ARAB goes into Critical Fail, releases all the busy relays already operated and reports to the alarm centre.

There are many other commands that can be used to control the ARAB...

To make sure that certain data is present in these databases before you use the Data Builder, you must enter all stations and PCPs in the EAR.

...a call is waiting or someone has packet on to your extension!

9. HUMAN COMPUTER INTERFACE

9.1 Skeleton Form

This will be indicated by a tinkle ring.

The modular system can be used house fusion spliced fibres onto connectorised secondary coated tails, or ruggedised patch cords, rather than field terminating.

- 1 Fit adaptor to back lugs.
- 2 Fit Thing to adaptor
- 1 Order Thing + sleeving
- 2 Order Pigtails
- 3 Comes with.

(Engineer's notes given to a technical author to write up)

Display: WC: INPUT

It is up to you to decide which action to perform on the object.

If the reminder pertains to an action record or a trouble ticket, View Reminders makes sure that this later is still opened and still handled by the same user as its user.

View data provides the following facilities which will be driven from an overall main screen that provides the following:

The scrollable List Options shows a list of Attention Records over the last records interval if any were found.

...and has become generally recognised as a standard by a small proportion of multinational customers.

Note This Token Passing should not be confused with 'token passing'; where an electrical signal ('token') is attached to the information package and once the message has been delivered the token is passed on to another device.

Locate the two dowels into the two holes provided in the bottom.

If at some point in the ARS the call is blocked...

The network contains many things that can be called equipment. Some of these "things" are contained by other "things" which are also equipment..

The tables above focuses on the services deemed to be relevant across the scenarios described, the following notes show their suitability.

The fitment of these labels is optional.

Major thrusts for the future local network will be the penetration of fibre and radio technologies.

Equipment bugged

(This appeared in a screen menu on a genuine system. Unfortunately the engineers changed it. A pity.) – Ed.

The jumper setting is said to be in the M position, for example, means that two dots appearing above the letter M with a dash line joined together, has to be shorted together.

(A constraint) represents a "given" within which the programme or project team has to live.

contained_by The equipment id of the equipment that contains this piece of equipment.

contained_by The facility_code of the facility that contains this facility. If the facility_type is trunk then the containing facility will be a cable. (facility_code)

The Equipment Inventory menu (Figure 1) is now displayed as illustrated in Figure 1.

The system gathers alarm and error performance information from the geographically disperse transmission systems...

Calls from any agent extended within the attendants on same node may be recalled.

The desired alarm condition is selected by this setting to activate the outputs PA1 and PA2. From them alarm data can be collected with some fault monitoring system. The output PA1 can also be used e.g. to control a change-over equipment in protected systems.

No alarm is usually given of the received far-end alarm because the fault has been detected elsewhere but if desired, alarm A or alarm B can be set to be given. However, S-alarm visible in the Service Terminal is always given. It indicates that the main service of the system is missing.

The alarm threshold is set by giving the permissible percentual increase for the initial bias current value of the laser. (Not in terminal repeaters provided with an LED transmitter).

the desired operating mode of the automatic cut-off and restart of the laser transmitter in case the incoming signal is missing is set. (Not in terminal repeaters provided with an LED transmitter).

The time which the priveleges obtained with the password or PIN signal (see Protections) are in effect is set).

In this way it is made sure that the compilation of statistics and error counting start from the commissioning.

Entering an M causes presentation of the fault report screen.

Avoidance in using a terminating character eg. using the mouse to move to another box, means that the software is not prompted to validate the contents of that box.

All other features described in this guide appear alphabetically, by name.

(As opposed to alphabetically, by number?) – Ed.

A list of the services available will be displayed with their status (available or not available)

To bring up the TIP table from a form:

(...stick your fingers down its throat) – Ed.

If a row of screens is normally viewed from above, the screen unit for that row can be installed 'upside down' to improve the brightness of the images.

Agenda for editors' meeting

The monthly edicts' meetings are being revived...

The clear distinction between change and ongoing business programmes and projects is that change investments are normally optional whereas ongoing business investment is less optional, being driven by growth, modernisation and routine replacement of the Network in line with approved policies, using approved technologies and suppliers to meet agreed demand levels and quality criteria for existing products and services.

All the function names have been limited to eight characters or less to confuse the reader, but there are some naming conventions which should ease the decryption process in some small measure.

The Call Appearance Display Report lists on which button associated with a specific telephone number and service order number a particular telephone number appears as a call appearance.

It is possible to authorise the announcements used by Network Class of Service on a PBX basis. However, because of the many possibilities for customisation it will not be possible to detail all available possibilities here.

This manual is the first priority for that package and presentational aids as well as a course is being investigated also.

It is well understood, both within the company and outside, that effort up front significantly improves the chances of success. Sound Project Management applied in a common-sense way is an essential enabler to the success of the group in an increasingly competitive and investment-constrained environment.

...carry information between two mutually remoted sites...

This prevents permanent seizures during fault condition...

Risk analysis involves identification of possible risks, judging the likelihood of the risk occurring, and assessing the seriousness of the risk should it occur, against the potential benefits if the risk is avoided.

Make sure that you have the correct printer allocated for your next task before escaping.

The description is now a summary of how and when the programme or project will achieve its objectives, and will be at a high level given the specific technical (or other) solution has yet to be selected.

Annually Used to indicates whether the specified maintenance function is to be performed on an annually basis.

This is very similar to the MOP except that it gives details of tasks assigned to a UM. It is also possible to access the UMP for a UM in another OMU.

Is the advice concise

Most of the interviewees found the text to be "verbose" or "waffely". However it was suggested that this was not a problem, as anyone familiar with this department is used to the style.

In versions of 3V8 and above contains the global block number of this LSC, required by this version of software to operate correctly. It is calculated by the system on blowing the table EPROM.

Is the connection data needed to set up the communications with the device defined? If any is not, an error message is displayed...

...depressing single key other than dialling a cod
(*This might have been no more than a boring typing error, only it was hand-written!*) – Ed.

...defines whether a continuously depressed keyboard key will produce a stream of characters until released...

Diagnostic strategy

The following sequence is a check list of what to do if everything has been set up as described earlier in this section but things still do not work.

It allows you to cycle between several of the applications at a specified rate. This lets you display relevant information to, for example an audience.

Print density can be adjusted with a volume control...

Typeo error in tie detailed help. Present Order of alarm list

(*Customer comments – unfortunately they introduced a 'typeo' (sic) that wasn't there originally; it should have read 'time detailed help'!*)

There is scepticism about the need for formal project management; indeed, it is often described as bureaucratic (sic)...

It is intended that we hold annual seminars as was agreed at those held during 1991.

- 6 Some difficulties may occasionally be experienced when making calls from other apparatus connected to the terminal via the fax. Such difficulties may include:

- i Difficulty in making calls

If such difficulties are experienced...

The total number of consecutive groups of 60 non severely errored seconds within which available time whose accumulated error count is below the criteria for a critically high minute.

Some sufferers have found that they can work successfully with VDUs without provoking an attack.

This Instruction has been completely revised and is now issued with this Instruction...

Accelerator A keyboard character which is inserted into a user interface object. When the character is typed in at the keyboard the action for the object associated with that character is carried out.

Dialog Box A user interface object. The mis-spelling of "Dialog" is to distinguish this tool and its behaviour from the general understanding of the word "dialogue" which is used to describe the interaction between the user, the workstation and the toolkit.

...when the he administrator logs on...

Fields in which you are able to enter information turn white when you select them.

Care must be taken at all times to avoid damage to the tool, which must be kept in the leather pouch when not in use. A damaged tool must be replaced.

Talk mode, this is entered when the handset user presses the talk/ standby button, it is left when either the user presses the talk/standby button again or the continuous user ID hand shaking fails and the base times out.

* Free Spell Check

All this at very competative rates!

(*From an advert*)

The software for all of the image-based system should present to the user a friendly, intuitive front end, with no esoteric terminology or jargon.

As I explained to you during our recent telephone conversation, someone died suddenly and their duty is being covered temporarily... Should the situation change, I will contact you...

(*From a memo*)

Two browsers which, with associated push buttons, allow the assignation of tool stop details

...select the CSI to which you wish to connect the DLIC to

In view of this, not only are the infantile failures removed...

When the Print Screen key has been pressed the system will ask you to confirm that you wish the print to be produced on the default printer for that type of print;

Our aim is, therefore, to create a desire in all our managers...

Stand by, this mode is entered either by turning the unit on or pressing the talk/standby button from the talk or intercome modes ie only the receiver and CPU are powered up enabling the base to communicate with it and the user to update the memories

Tasks assigned to an MO appear in his MOP.

Tasks assigned to a UM appear in his UMP.

When the user sets up the base unit for the first time there are a number of things they must do these are,

- 7 Unroll the antenna wire and lay in a straight line.

These consoles are deemed to be part of the network and as such can only be rented, not rented.

...commonality of approach among the various standards making bodies.

There are two types of digital common channels. In the digital omnibus connection, all the channels to be summed up have the same priority. The channels coming from all other incoming directions are summed into the outgoing direction. In the other type, one of the directions is the MASTER direction out of which the incoming channel is connected as such into the other directions (SLAVE directions) and the channels coming from the SLAVE directions are summed up and transmitted to the MASTER direction.

We have a long way to go to achieve the vision.

(When's the next bus to Mecca?) – Ed.

Always ensure that no moisture can penetrate the telephone set...

Key options are:
Start (seizure)

Features with no relevance to any of the defined scenarios have been added for completeness.

As an instance can be given a user-alias which will appear in the Name field on the instances form view. This is a user friendly alternative to the RDN.

A growing opportunity has attained critical mass as a result of a twofold serendipity...

This malleability of information will allow the technology to shrink wrap itself around the individual...

Unlike an ordinary mailbox user, a System Manager is not required to enter an old password in order to **what ?**.

To assign a password you must first be attached to the mailbox.

Wipe off your telephone set...

Where to put it

This product should be kept free of...moisture ...and vibration...It should not be used in bathrooms...

(The mind boggles) – Ed.

NONE of these voltages MUST be connected to several units simultaneously.

This project is seen as a key enabler to addressing the wider issues of identification of Organisations and Individuals of interest to the company (termed party).

Used cleaning pads should be dumped in proper places where plastic items are to be dumped.

If you do not desire display of the subscriber number...

Zeroise counters.

(AAARRRRRRGH!) – Ed.

The software program not only has a spell checker (you can also check text written in a foreign language) but it also has a grammer checker.

Option 3 will give no screen prompts. The user must put the local PC end into receive mode by selecting the transfer option - text. Once invoked the user will be prompted to enter the file required at the Stratus and the file to store it in at the PC end.. At the end the file should be closed by pressing the 'stop' key (using the mouse).

You that we are looking a drive A which is the floppy drive

Function keys with fixed significance

There is the a list of files. Each file appears on it's own line.

Press and release the SELECT buttons simultaneously.

For continuous and satisfactory use avoid dropping the phone.

These systems are equipped with an internal 24 character, dot matrix printer.

A document is never read solely for the purpose of reading it.

As we are sure you are aware this is a very sophisticated unit, built to the highest quality, by the most experienced of British companies. In the design we have tried to make the functions as easy as possible for the user to operate.

While we taken great care in the design to minimise the effect of special lighting, we do recommend for superb results that will impress you friends you follow these simple steps when setting up a video call.

Large movements will cause the image to be blurred, it is therefore recommended that you minimise your movement, such as nodding or shaking of the head.

In case of display breakage follow these instructions
Every effort has been taken to avoid the display being broken however if for any reason the display is broken the LCD (Liquid Crystal Fluid) should not be touched. Call the company who will send an engineer around to dispose of the unit.

If any of the liquid is touched, rinse for 5 minutes under cold water. If irritation call a doctor. If any of the fluid is swallowed call a doctor immediately for advice. In the absence of a doctor.....

(I didn't put the dots in; this is copied verbatim from the original. It continued on to another subject without enlarging on what you should do in the absence of a doctor) – Ed.

If for some reason this product fails to work properly we recommend you carry out these simple checks.

- 3 Have you read this user instructions book on operating the product?

This is the mains on/off switch and is located on the right-hand side of the unit. Under normal operation the switch should always be in the ON position.

To ensure pleasure from this product...

Under normal circumstances, a phone automatically knows when it is the receiving phone – and behaves accordingly. When a call is transferred, however, it doesn't know, and has to be told.

Please consult your responsible office for this.

...static charges could lead to defects in the circuitry

You have decided in favour of this product.

(This was the opening sentence of a user guide)

This product is equipped with all technical facilities for achieving the convenience features described in these operating instructions.

The performance feature is activated by pressing the softkey beneath.

This text is transmitted to your call partner during the ringing phase and displayed on his display.

Unit is not answering to service terminal during this inquiry.

These faults disable reliable function of the unit. The faulty unit must be sent to service to be repaired.

(This one gained the comment 'I think they mean it's knackered!')

This is used e.g. in production testing to test leds. So it is not proper fault.

If some of these faults will be activated, led alarm is given to unit and fault display (1 Fault display) tells to Run diagnostic test.

More detailed description of fault situation is get by running diagnostic test.

The middle hole is for the jacking bolt.

Fault message: EEPROM fault
Reason: microprocessor's EEPROM is faulty.

Failure to delete because a PC entry referred to the being.

When confident line is present exit editor by typing EXIT

Do not install the product at a location at which it can be splashed by water or chemicals.

Insert the modules into the security system shelf from the front and from left to right in the following as follows:

For continuous and satisfactory use avoid steamy places.

This restriction results from a small metal cylinder projecting from the backplane which prevents NEs from mating with the female connectors in this position.

(Maybe they should try the missionary position instead) – Ed.

The power supply unit integrated in the network termination unit is rated to permit it to power up to eight telephone sets.

The hotline mode can be used to connect unintelligent data terminals to the network, which don't support any dialogue between the terminal adapter and itself.

Regardless of whether you use the telephone privately or for business, it will always offer you a high level of telephone convenience and is fun to make calls with.

(Share and Enjoy!)

The display provides you with information on the current status and makes it very simple to operate the telephone correctly using so-called softkeys.

However, you should read at least the following sections so that you can telephone with confidence.

This service is enhanced by strong links with the supplier, who now have an on-site support team providing specialised support services on a full time basis.

You do not want to have to enter a subscriber number which you use frequently all the time...

By entering a call identification, it is possible for even several calls to be parked within one terminal.

We think it would be a good to meet with you person dealing with this conversion, please call me to arrange something.

You can bar your telephone to prevent unauthorised use.

Functions hotline and barring are mutually exclusive.

Thus, it will suffice for instance, to enter only the company number and not the company number and an extension number.

You can now select for whom the currently set tone is to apply.

How to store a note in idle state is described below:
Apart from the change option, storing during a call is largely identical.

You can also deactivate number display briefly for the current call which you are making.

You yourself can determine the subaddress of your telephones.

How to access a different UM catchment area OOH.

Powered roof supports must allow for unhindered movement of exposed persons.

Invoke the Pop-up you require...

For a modem managed object instance, its behaviour would describe how, when it receives a command to set its baud rate, the baud rate attribute of the object is set to the value specified in the command.

Note The wire will not be properly inserted unless the tool is pushed fully forward and bottomed.
The click made by the tool does not necessarily indicate that the wire has been correctly bottomed.

The connection tool measures 6 x 1.5 x 1 in.
A leather pouch is also available.

The map drawn by the system is a square, covering a specified area in relation to station A. In the **Size of map square (km):** field, type in the radius (in kilometres) of the area, centred on station A, to be searched.

All entry operations start and finish with depression of the ENTER key.

...defines a MIB as 'a conceptual repository that contains information about managed objects'. The MIB contains information about the network resource to be managed in the form of a hierarchical database of managed object instances.

An in-depth discussion of these messages can be obtained from the User Manual.

(Spoken to any good books lately?)

An explanation of the above display is given below.

Ethnic Origin Pop-up

Not to be used until later.

Each subsequent depression takes you down a level.

Details of these curses can be obtained from your local training office.

Wire tails should not be bent backwards, prior to terminating.

It is good practice and you can always test yourself by doing them with one eye closed.

It is more convenient when terminating to place the fixture in the position below that of the connector being terminated.

Other method specific techniques may be required, such as Entity Modelling or CRUD Analysis may be required.

We've taken a great deal of care in preparing this book so you'll never be left wondering how to perform a certain function.

See *Receiving historic leg update.*

Resynchronisation describes the process which runs on a variable cycle...

Do not spill liquids on to the unit or you may cause a fire or receive a shock. If you spill liquid or a foreign substance falls into the unit...

Do not disassemble the unit as there are exposed power points that could cause a shock if touched.

On any reasonable size system the number of lions will be enormous...

WARNING: Dropping, or giving this unit shocks can detract from the quality of the print...

Options: [A-B/ALL/OFF]

Any key which is not suitable will have no effect if depressed.

The unit generates pip sound for illegal operation. Operator can know wrong operation from this pip sound (reject sound).

When operator suspends control button operation incompletely for more than 2 min., the machine returns to the standby mode.

The award, only the forth to be presented, has been made in recognition of Sir Bryan's; methodical contributions to a more empirical investigation of both the merits and the practical difficulties of introducing competition in telecommunications;

- incentive regulations in the areas of quality of service, and price control to stimulate the efficiency dominant suppliers, and temporary asymmetric entry assistance to their competitors.

(Although as a general rule names have been edited out, this one has been retained because it was such a good typo! Text reproduced character-for-character from the original.) – Ed.

With the early lifecycle currently being the largest value-adding bottleneck...

Figure 2.5 shows the Overview Status window with Eternal Alarm information.

Your access is only for the three activities listed above and attempts to do unauthorised transactions is disallowed by the system.

Almost each word (or its equivalent) within bullet points below points to a non-proprietary standard, or its part.

The pop-up is read only.

You see the options on the menu that you have chosen to roll down.

(Q) My mouse was working fine before I installed my MIDI interface and Recording Session. Now it jumps around a lot and acts erratic.

(A) ...This kind of situation can be difficult to diagnose, because things don't fail, they just act weird.

(From a 'question-and-answer'-type Help section of a manual)

The parity is toggled using the space bar.

Then the CUT1 signal goes low and, a little later for taking a time for braking, the CUT2 signal (IC820-pin19) goes high, resulting in the cutter motor rotates reverse. When the cutter home position switch is actuated, the CUT2 signal goes low to terminate one cutting cycle. The switch statuses SO1 and SO2 are sent to IC805-pins 52 and 53 for notifying the cutting status to the CPU.

If the home position switch is not activated within a specified period of time after the cutter reverse switch is turned on, it is regarded as cutter jump...

A parent message will contain or be responsible for a child.

(Presumably if it is female it will contain it, and if it is male it will be responsible for it!) – Ed.

Navigating around brief relationships

Once you have specified the brief that you want to look at and you see its relationships on the screen, you can choose to navigate around the other briefs and messages with which it has relationships and look in turn at their relationships in more detail.

Beep The sounding of the terminal bell.

(This appeared in a glossary)

An Agent in Automatic Answer Mode wears a head set. Any incoming call is directly connected to the Agent after a tone is heard in the Agent's ear.

To space out symbols...click on either the Horizontal or the Vertical button as required.

You see the SEARCH CONTENTS menu. Choose 'of Briefs'...

The system will intelligently work out if there is a latest report that you have not received.

Some implementations of precompiled headers may be buggy.

Determine which processes Create, Read, Update, Delete (CRUD)

Check the CRUD information...

Pure OO language characteristics, enabling the team to exercise the positive aspects of OO, such as re-use, inheritance and encapsulation, considered to be inherent in a fully OO language

A development 'timebox' is the single iteration of the RAD development lifecycle shown previously. If the scope of the system is such that it cannot be implemented within the agreed maximum timebox period (see note below), then the project needs to be re-scoped.

(process A and process B) now use two additional env vars. each:

There set in a read perms denied access to grp or others as required .profileIf there not set the progs will print and error msg to stderr.

(Provided for an installation guide)

Note The file will be blank if it does not contain any information.

The guillotine is being repaired and out of use...

Its inclusion has raised dough's in our minds...

Amend penultimate sentence to 'misspelt' from miss-spelt'.

(From a review error list)

If the person *does not exist* then the **New Person...** button is enabled...

The other subsections deal with Training of humans involved with the product.

Watch Out for These "Gotchas"

Before you begin editing any configuration file, make a backup copy of the file and store it in a safe place. That way you have something to return to in case something – shall we say "unexpected" – happens. As you edit a configuration file, watch out for these "gotchas."

(From an American user guide)

Network incidents will be held on-linen for up to 7 days...

Boring

See Civil Engineers

(Entry in Yellow Pages)

The company as a whole benefits through higher trained and 'portable' people.

The can included employess such as Buyers or Project Managers.

(Is an employess a female employee?) – Ed.

Space or use of the SPACEBAR is donated by, "_" in the following instructions.

Click YES to view NO to exit.

Some parts of the product are not 'machine digestible'.

To remove film band pull tab on back side.

(Instructions on a floppy disk box cover)

Move the mouse pointer to the required country...

Select the first symbol, then select the other symbols that are to be aligned with the right-hand mouse button.

Senior managers currently cannot all communicate with each other...

Whilst in the national network where transmission links are relatively cheap, it is cost effective for user rates less than 64 kbit/s to be rate adapted on to a 64 kbit/s bearer, but on international interconnections where transmission links are expensive, in general the transmission bandwidth provided link will be sufficient to support the required user rate and no more, that is, multiplexing rather than rate adaption will be used to transmit the user data over a 64 kbit/s bearer.

Replace the text "...may be taken over by the design council" with "...may be subsumed within that of the design council"

(From a document review. Plain English rules OK!)

These transactions are done by means of a functionality referred to as 'Near Real Time Update' (NRTU).

Selection this option to plot the map.

It is particularly important that students should have attended a field maintenance course.

The following instructions enables you to make the required transaction and confirm that they have been effective.

Upon accessing the system you are fronted by a short menu...

(Should this be confronted or affronted?) – Ed.

When shaking is required, shake immediately before testing.

RTFM (Read The Fantastic Manual). This acronym is often used when someone asks a simple or common question. The word 'Fantastic' is often replaced with one much more vulgar.

(Excerpt from a glossary in a published document – no kidding!)

'69' could have resulted from a variety of circumstances, and it is unsafe to assume any of them is friendly.

If you make extensive changes in one session, you may be prompted to exist so the changes can be merged into the disk files. After you exist and the files are updated, you can begin again.

Examples for defining a portfolio are...activity towards a common purpose.

(So long and thanks for all the fish!)

They can be set to 'beep and raise', that is, make a sound to draw your attention, and auto-raise, by opening the selection window by clicking on the window with the left button while holding down the CTRL key, and by selecting the relevant option.

You can also enjoy abbreviated dialling...

After having booting from the CD-ROM, which will take several minutes, a menu will come up asking for the following information.

A quote for a 'Participants Workboob' was sent to a customer.

Lick to the left of the screen in the caption frame.

This feature allows you to make an announcement to one or more terminals, provided the terminals are fitted with a loudspeaker and arse not in the same pickup group as your terminal.

Pressing TAB or the arrow keys moves the user around the fields.

(Fasten your seat belt...)

When a user either logs out or is logged out, the system ensures that the apparatus in use is released and returned to its normal idle state.

When a problem occurs on a service, the icon denoting that service or, if you are currently viewing a higher level picture, the customer who owns that service, will turn red.

This prevents you from unexpectedly being transitioned into the data mode.

The overall effectiveness and added value of internal auditing may be enhanced by useful tool.

Contact your local faulty service.

While this happens a display showing you what is happening will be displayed.

We can edit your manuscript to a truly professional standard...

(This appeared in an advert from a company offering editorial services)

Memo

To leave a personal message.

Press <CR>, an asterix will appear...

These reports help you and/or the compan detect certain types of problem or repeat problems...

To delete the last menu entry, press the [Shit] and [F8] keys together.

This information contained in this manual is correct, errors and omissions excepted, at the time of publication. As your copy of this manual will not be updated some information contained in it may become out of date.

The package should either have packaging wrap-around or be shrunk wrap.

Do not attempt this information unless you have this information.

A part of the documentation ends up with users in the form of manuals; another, ideally more voluminous part is used by other humans.

Organisation's intellectual property – that which is not dependant of concrete employee(s).

Elements of a sound system of internal control...

(What kind of sound system – Panasonic, Technics or Aiwa?)

ICL - Intentional Computers

(This appeared in a glossary)

Utilize - Don't use. Use use instead.

(From a technical writers' style guide)

Otherwise unprotected areas that have special features applied, which increase the fire resistance of the area to an equivalent standard for the wall in which it is positioned.

Provide surely a proper fuse in the lighting fixture using this lamp, because it is avoided from destruction at its life end.

(Instruction enclosed with a light bulb)

For any account, other than retail accounts, that will be used to make payments from, must have an account type as setup here.

(Field description in a financial software program)

It also removes spent liquids from its customers and reprocesses them.

If you require an explanation of the contents of any of the fields, refer to the section where the use of the option which you use to set up or maintain the records is explained.

Bundled with the modem is a fax software package that offers both send and receive features.

Anyway, you shall pay particular attention to the following parameter settings, as very possibly an unsuccessful modem installation is due to incorrect setting of them.

Switching the power switch to ON turns the modem on, while sliding it to OFF turns the modem off.

It is recommended that you always turn on your computer prior to turning off the computer.

Note that for use with a DB9 female or other style connector, and adaptor is required.

(What's a DB9 female?) – Ed.

For the reason of your protection, we only disclosure the factory-default password to necessary VARs.

Hereafter lists the examples for your reference.

Be sure to specify the correct information to the modem, so that it can perform dialling in a correct way.

No back-up battery is required, so that it eliminates the threat of data loss due to dead battery, and the damages due to battery leakage.

Also, due to the data compression technology employed, the data throughput can be four times as faster in comparing to an ordinary modem.

This means the same file can be transmitted in a fractional of time, and so the telephone bill cost.

...the same fax transmission can be done faster (and cheaper the telephone bill) than at 9,600 bps.

Data-communication is highly essential in today's world. We welcome your joining this world and sincerely hope you enjoy your new modem!

Type the telephone number of a public service that you are familiar with...

...your telephone system may require some specific commands to work right.

You shall as much as possible connect your modem to a direct outside telephone line without going through a PBX, unless the PBX is proven good for data communications. If the PBX is not proven, bypass it and test the modem on a direct outside line.

Many PBX systems require first dial an access code to access the outside line. You shall insert one or more comma command to spare sufficient time for your PBX to connect your modem call to the outside line.

Two kinds of dialing system are in use, say the rotary-pulse and the touch-tone system. More and more the tone-touch system is dominating, but there are still pulse system existed in many regions. Some region may exist both systems.

Your telephone company shall be able to tell you on which dialing system you are connected. However, the following example allows identifying the dialing system of your telephone line.

- 1 Turn on your computer, your modem and boot the communications software. You shall be able to directly issue dialing command to your modem.

If the call goes through, your system is of pulse dialing.

Note that this command is inserted in the command line to active the call-progress monitoring function of your modem.

Your modem supports both the tone and pulse dialing methods. Hereafter are some modem commands in related to modem dialing.

Your modem also supports adaptive dialing function which will make the call through no matter your dialing system is tone or pulse.

You should contact with your modem dealer if you are encountering of problem.

Your modem can help isolating your problem by performing a series of diagnostic tests as listed below.

(These are all from a guide which was written in Taiwan) – Ed.

The presentation of tasks have been improved to give the following improvements....

If you have another application open, the flashing icon will bounce to the front...

This field is completely optional.

Additional capability is any capability in addition to the basic capability.

Cabled rums should be regularly inspected to assess their physical condition.

System was shut down properly, call System Support immediately.

Place the actuator's exit orifice at the required distance from the flame...

(This was later translated as "Hold the nozzle at the required distance...") – Ed.

A Japanese technical manual translated "hydraulic ram" as "watery sheep".

If you enter an invalid date this system replies:
"Monday is not a Monday."

There may be times when the modem does not cooperate with you no matter what you do. However, the modem is probably not at fault.

The use of printed paper can damage the facsimile due to melted ink. Some kinds of ink may generate gas or the like.

These steps are detailed in more detail in the rest of this section.

If the code you entered was for a version of the product that has a later version stored on the remote software server then you will be asked if you want to install the latest if you want to.

Undefined is not defined.

Phones will be going down for a few minuets.

(From an office warning system. Anyone for a dance?)

With so many dates such as availabilities and expiries that are based on a set term from another event rather than a set date keeping track of all of the dependent events can be difficult.

Do not turn upside down.

(Printed on the bottom of the box.)

Product will be hot after heating

Are you torn by indecision as to whether an item at the back of the book should be called an "Appendix" or an "Addendum"?

Well, the problem was solved circa 1998 by an inventive person who sent one of my boob scouts a document with an "Appendum". More recently, another scout came across the even more inventive "Ammendum" – an amendment to an Appendum, perhaps?

Protection against fire can be achieved by the provision of additional protection.

These user guide things, they're not user guides in the user guide sense.

(Overheard conversation.)

The program is unique in that it enhances the version 3 engine to the extent that it will support almost all of the features in version 4. This allows true single souring of your projects.

Do not drive car or operate machinery

(On a bottle of children's medicine.)

Warning: may cause drowsiness

(On a sleep aid.)

For indoor or outdoor use only.

Do not Iron clothes on body

Timer Count-up: electronically counts up to 99:59 from zero in one second increasement. If the value over 99:59, it will stop counting.
Count-down: to set the desired value is in one minute up by functional button. Interval beeps for 8 seconds (beep beep beep beep four shor sounds, if equiped with buzzer), when the desired value counts back to zero. When (timer) value returns zero, press [ST/STOP] button will count down again from preset value.

Calories Calories consumption computation varies according to user's exercise speed, distance during work time. Suggest user it helpful if you make comparison between to calories values whsich were obtained in two different occations. Calories burned-up figure provide a rough value for us'er referenece only, during workout.

Auto off Without any signal for 5 minues, the power will auto turn off, in this case, all the value will be kepted.

Note

- Push (SET) button a little longer. The desired value can be got in a faster speed.
- When timer start with 00:00, the distance will automatic start with zero. This funcstion allow you to always to get the accurary average speed.

(This batch was taken from a user instruction leaflet for an exercise computer. Spelling and puctuation is reproduced exactly from the original.) – Ed.

Not to be used for the other use

(On a Japanese food processor.)

The phrase 'click on' is used to describe the action of using the mouse to point over an object (such as a button or a field in a table) and clicking the left-hand mouse button down and up just once.

The word 'select' is used to describe the action of using the mouse to point over an object (such as a piece of text) and clicking the left-hand mouse button down and, while the mouse button is down, moving the mouse to a desired location then releasing the mouse button.

(Well, that makes it really clear, doesn't it? Incidentally, these are from a guide which supposedly assumes that the user is familiar with Windows!) – Ed.

You must enter a 2-digit sequence to indicate the status of the Third Party. This status code is not used elsewhere in the software, and is not used to extract data from any source system. This field will accept any keyboard characters, up to a maximum of 2.

This field is MANDATORY.

PHOTOGRAPHY

Please note: Not all types of filth are available so you would be wise to take in what you need.

(From a tourist office website – not strictly technical but still amusing!)

Plus, it brings TV to your computer and makes gaming a legitamate desktop past time by supporting the latest graphics, sound, and multimedia technologies.

Support: "What seems to be the problem?"

Customer: "When I change my font sizes, the letters change size."

(From a helpdesk call)

Just to inform you all I have spoken to our engineer and is has said it will be OK for you to open the windows in the building as the Chillers are not working at foul capacity.

(From a Service Centre e-mail.)

The software in easy steps will take the reader from opening it for the first time, through to using the program for complex accounting procedures...Even covers the Inland Revenue Statuary requirements.

(Does this mean we have to send sculptures in with our tax returns now?) – Ed.

Just to inform you all we seem to be experiencing some problems with the lavatories at present... I have arranged for you all to have access to the First floor meeting room area toilets. To gain access to these toilets could you all please use the back stair well and not try to go through the main floor.

(From a Service Centre e-mail.)

Dedicated and experienced team to ease installion

(From a pension plan provider's website, on a page about transferring in pensions from other providers.)

Warning keep out of children

Warning: contains nuts

Instructions: open packet, eat nuts.

(On various packets of peanuts.)

Use repeatedly for severe damage.

(On a Taiwanese shampoo.)

To avoid condensation forming, allow the boxes to warm up to room temperature before opening.

(Instructions for US computer – very helpful, except that they were inside the box.)

Lie down on bed and insert product slowly up to the projected portion like a sword-guard into anal duct. While inserting product for approximately 5 minutes, keep quiet.

(On a Japanese product used to relieve painful haemorrhoids.)

The architect should ensure that the well dimensions are sufficient for the specified well dimensions.

We would greatly appreciate your patients and cooperation in this matter.

A report can be traduced that displays all the payment detail...

Kindly ignore our message. Message has gone wrongly to you. We regret incontinence.

(From an office e-mail.)

If a run is erogenous it should be possible to back up and re-run it.

invigilator:

person responsible for invigilation

system:

something of interest as a whole or as comprised of parts

information:

any kind of knowledge, that is exchangeable amongst users, about things, facts, concepts and so on, in a universe of discourse

(A series of helpful Terms and Definitions.)

The capacity of the stairs should not be used as a basis for determining the number of occupants in room where the resultant occupancy is excessive in relation to the management of that space.

Our client are a leading manufacturer who enjoy success within a fruitfall niche market...

(From an advert for the position of Technical Author.)

Before starting moving, check the blade fastening and sharpening. Sharpening of the cutting edges must be done uniformly on both sides in order to avoid unbalances.

The fastening of screws has to be periodically verified.

(From an instruction booklet for a lawnmower.)

To refresh the lust of reports, select Refresh.

items
 additional, 4.2.2
 other, 4.2.4

(From an index.)

The means of escape strategy should take into account the potential for reverse flows that may occur in this scenario.

The stock of the test bar shall be dimensioned so as to ensure correct fitting with the test machine.

Please note: The Undo operation itself cannot be undone.

The hardness of the connector shall be assured by use of quality assurance procedures.

As you can see from attached one of our drafting experts will be attending to help you with the text, etc.

(From a memo.)

The maximum wave period, T_{\max} , is the period of the maximum wave.

Those who work at a height should never forget that gravity is no respecter of persons.

A terylene rip cord shall be included to facilitate stripping.

Core Module:

A module that is supplied to all customers of your product. You may not have all the core modules on your installation.

The broadly acceptable category covers individual risk levels that may be considered insignificant, for which no further mitigation is required to reduce the risk further. As a guideline in the UK, this category covers individual risk levels below one in a million per annum or receiving a dangerous doze or worse.

(From a discussion of risk assessment. Zzzzzzzz.....)

Pedestrians can be regarded as approximately cylindrical.

Invalid BLOB handle in record buffer

THIS IS NOT A MISSPRINT

Re above I have consulted internally on a limited basis and we make the following observation/comments:

(From an e-mail. Sounds painful, not to mention undignified!) – Ed.

If the means for moving the car can be driven by the lift moving, then is shall be a smooth spokeless wheel.

Control equipment and control rooms should be carefully and ergonomically designed to provide information which clearly identifies urgent information...

Note to readers and editor - section 6.6.3 contains the symbol for friction (mew) which may not print as such in all computer configurations.

Our **** hotel, located in the heart of the Nature Reserve, welcomes you for a comfortable stay.

(I think they were supposed to indicate that this is a four-star hotel...)

Type 2 clothing is to prevent penetration against liquid penetration to protect against hydrocarbons, acids alkalis etc.

Click on OH.

When choosing equipment is should be remembered that static strength requirements are usually minimums. By definition, this means the least acceptable static strength for the component.

In case of dispute, the length $L + 2b$ shall always be unless there is insufficient material.

(To be or not to be?) – Ed.

Machining, if required, shall be carried out at ambient temperature in accordance with a machining procedure.

The energy absorber is the component responsible in this type of fall arrest system for absorbing the energy generated during the fall.

Gaps can vary to rationalize frame sizes measured to fit existing similar but not identical openings.

A primary focus will be to lead development of future product enhancements to leverage the internet and other innovative media opportunities.

(From a job description for a Senior Editor.)

In addition, due consideration should be given to considering the effects that might arise from the use of ship ramps which are deployed by hydraulic cylinders.

The performance of fire-resisting glazed elements is inextricably connected to the ability of the framing and glazing system to provide the ability for the glass to maximise its performance and avoid premature detachment.

These are jobs to which the author has attacked a Word template.

The loaded length for the member under consideration shall be the full base length of the adverse area of the influence line. Where there is more than one adverse area the maximum effect should be determined by consideration of the adverse area or combination of adverse areas using the loading appropriate to the full base length or the sum of the full base lengths of any combination of adverse areas selected.

It's only a ballpark, quite literally.

The company can provide you with piece of mind.

This matter is not at the selected branch. It is a Branch Matter. Please try again.

(From a legal accounting program.)

You may need a further time record, to get this you will need another line on your grid, another row on your time sheet as such.

The Liar of Nominal Codes screen is displayed.

Refrigerators of a domestic type and refrigerated display cabinets are not of themselves considered to need any special consideration.

This babble continues on the next page.

(It should have read "This table...".)

Distress calls and all ship calls with category distress or urgency will alert continuously until manually handled from the front.

This section describes assumptions and decisions made that are critical for correct functionality, but might be hidden to the operator in the display.

Power Supply Switch which, when depressed, switches the system power on or off.

(Maybe it needs a hug?) – Ed.

Pull and release the Knob (11) two or three times and make sure that the Plunger (7) retracts and extends fully.

A Document Holder (8) is located behind the Operator attached to the turret Sill Plate.

(How do you attach the Operator to the Sill Plate?) – Ed.

An error has occurred

-I

something is wrong!

(Pop-up error message)

Lead paints should not be used on surfaces which might be licked or chewed by children or animals.

If they are used on inclined surfaces greater than 5 degrees, the weights then tend to try and make the anchor device slide down the slope, rather than hold the anchor device to the surface.

(Naughty weights!) – Ed.

In theory, theory and practice are the same. In practice, they're different.

Step 1 : IDENTIFY COMPONENTS

This product is supplied into one box.

Step 2 : ASSEMBLE THE LEGS

Insert all legs into table top, putting it correctly position as shown, insert washer No.25 and bolts No.26 into. DO NOT TIGHTEN BOLTS AT THIS STAGE. ONCE ALL BOLTS HAVE BEEN CORRECTLY FITTED, TIGHTEN FULLY BY MONKEY WENCH.

(Assembly instructions for a small garden table.)

Prior to the start of any installation the installer should verify and satisfy himself that the installation designed is feasible to install.

The Notes tab allows users to keep free format notes on this person/body.

Follow-Up Command

Syntax: FU

Report data: Records are groped by Matter Fee Earner.

First preferences are indicated by a thick blob and second preferences are indicated by a smaller blob.

There shall be no contradictions or consistencies in the text.

Because crime is a fixed application, i.e. CDS need there forms in the format specified NOT user definable and we require variables to be there set value, by that I mean we look at variable 3999 and use as the UFN if the user changes the meaning of this variable then various points in the application will not work and the value printed on the reports submitted to the CDS for a claim will be turned down as the UFN is required.

(From a 17-page document handed to a technical author for rewriting.)

Comment: Punctuation inconsistent.

Proposed solution: Add semi-colon's not a comer after the phrase ending with "trays ect".

(Taken verbatim from a comment on a draft.)

Make a mouse click in the relevant box to activate it.

This valve should have a plug inserted to its open side of all times when not in use.

This approach is appropriate where it is required that the concrete achieves a performance...

(Will the lump of concrete be performing a pirouette, or merely declaiming a speech from Hamlet?) – Ed.

The use of these nozzles are restricted in there performance to be able to deposit water/water additive with impact to the opposite wall to that where the nozzles in installation.

You can select users from more than one folder, but only from one folder at a time.

Low pressure systems connected direct to suitable mains water supply can reduce stored pressurized water to a minimum of 5 min for domestic purposes onto mains water shall feed the system automatically when the storage has expired.

Pontoons and link bridges should be provided with clearly locatable temporary support points for use when the pontoon and link bridges.

Then the installer shall satisfy themselves and there is sufficient pressure throughout a 24 hours cycle to obtain the design spray patter of the most unfavourable nozzle.

For simple cases, as hot spot stress should be evaluated by multiplying the nominal stress for the geometrical stress concentration factor k_f , defined as the theoretical stress concentration evaluated for linear elastic material omitting all the influences (local or geometric) already included in the design Ds-N curve of the classified detail considered as a reference.

Pressure cylinder supply systems can be stand alone or linked to mains water supplies for secondary support, when linked to mains water supplies it should be water supply authority for the installation region approved prior to connections when used as a secondary support the water main should not be capable of refilling the cylinder's when require for fighting fires.

Where the system is pressurised up to system pressure through out the building and is reliant on maintaining that pressure a low pressure sensing devices should be installed and sound an alarm to show low pressure this could be form minuet system leaks or from tampering.

It appears early this morning the door to the High Street office was unlocked, I have received confirmation that the door was defiantly locked last night by the person last to leave the High Street office. Did anyone go over to the office early this morning?

(From an e-mail.)

Clamps the picture the application method:

(1) Puts the main body PHOTO

(2) Its transparent insertion main (for example on chart)

Method (A):

A: First about to A green colour part inset lead pane.

B: A second about to B plate the base down a windshield.

C: To push C the switch instruct in fixed.

D: Move the C palace go-between, may adjust the angle and the direction wilfully.

(These instructions appeared on the box of a mobile phone holder. The pictures didn't help.)

The slow application server is back again. Response time was decreased for a while based on the extremely high performance consumption of a corrupt Transport.

(From an e-mail.)

Compliance with legislation is a statutory requirement.

Type testing for third party accreditation will also indicate the performance of a seal but does and provides scope that limits substitution to single leaf single action doors as does [reference].

The red lead is connected to the [detail], while the shite lead...

In those days, authors' drafts were typed by the typing pool, read by a Reader and edited (surprise surprise) by the Editor. Illustrators and Tracers produced all diagrams, which, after approval, were pasted into text for camera and print. On one such diagram, I put a note on the diagram asking the tracer to remove a dog-leg. When the manual came back from print, the diagram had a neatly stencilled call-out note saying "Remove dog-leg".

(Anecdote received from a technical author.)

Positioning is very useful, especially in DHTML. Absolutely positioned elements inside relatively positioned elements are positioned relative to the relatively positioned element.

Navigate to a form and hover with the mouse pointer over a field information field.

If you want to mark any of these tests as having been completed, set the emu to Yes.

Please note: there must be a template associated with this template.

The maximum truncation is calculated according to the following formula:...

It is, however, advisable to aspire to a truncation of...

Launch the application, and follow the wizard steps.

(There are some absolutely spiffing and super steps as well!) – Ed.

If you want the Critical Oath to be reforecast...

In the event of the work refusing to pass the GO screw gauges, however, these plain GO gauges for the crests of the thread could be usefully employed to determine whether or not the flat crest diameter of the bolt was dimensionally too large, or the flat minor diameter of the nut too small.

Your cooperation is appreciated with this matter, and if you have any other electrical equipment in your drawers or surrounding areas, please make this equipment available for testing.

(From an e-mail.)

This part of the document is devoted to general particulars...

The Searchable menu offers you three options: Yes and No.

Hovertext: The text that appears when the user hovers over the link.

This document should be used as a reference guide for Operational purposes and maintained as a living document if any changes are made to the environments.

(It's alive!) – Ed.

It is assumed that the audience for this document understands the process and is also trained in using the product system manager to upload data through the back-end.

Care needs to be taken in the location of a boiler room within a building so as not to prejudice the means of escape of the occupants should there be an outbreak of ire involving the boiler room.

The values for pitch and crest diameter tolerances and for fundamental deviations have been calculated from the formulae and then rounded off to the nearest value in the R40 series of preferred numbers. However, when decimals occur, the value has been further rounded off to the nearest whole number.

In order to reproduce a smooth progression, these rules of rounding off have not always been used.

When selecting from the constant pitch series an endeavour should be made to choose a first choice diameter.

Who ever has left their plate and folk in the sink, please can they go in the kitchen and put in the dishwasher.

(From an e-mail.)

The machine will then proceeds to get stuck in a loop restarting itself everytime it gets to running widows and applying the computer settings.

You will be required to create and maintain product documentation and online hel..

From now on can you please ensure we scan any quotes we do for exciting customers...

(From an e-mail.)
